



YOUNG AT HEART

Griff Rhys Jones tells Valerie Grove why he hasn't settled down
PAGE 15



PLAY THE £50,000 GAME

See how your players are performing
PAGES 24, 25



LIBBY PURVES

on grown-ups behaving badly
PAGE 16



WIN A FILM-LOVER'S SHOPPING SPREE

PREMIUM LINE ENTRY PAGE 14

Fiancée witnessed car chase murder

Driver dies in 'road rage' stabbing

By Stephen Farrell

A YOUNG father has died after a passenger in a car he overtook stabbed him at least 15 times and slashed his throat at the end of a three-mile chase along unlit country lanes.

Lee Harvey, the fifth man to die this year as a result of road rage, was left bleeding from multiple wounds in the middle of the road as his attacker's car drove off. He died in the arms of his fiancée, who was slightly injured.

Detectives were last night looking for the shabby F-registered Ford Sierra that chased the couple between Burcot and Alvechurch in Hereford and Worcester, late on Sunday night. Detective Superintendent Ian Johnston said: "You could call it road rage, to us obviously it is murder."

Mr Harvey, 25, and his fiancée, Tracy Andrews, had been on their way home from an evening out in their white Escort RS2000 when they overtook the Sierra along the A38 near the Forest pub house. The other driver gave chase, flashing his lights, driving bumper to bumper and exchanging obscene hand gestures with Mr Harvey.

The pursuit continued along unlit single track lanes until the Sierra overtook Mr Harvey, who either decided or was forced to stop in Cooper's Hill, a few hundred yards from his home. As Miss Andrews looked on from the car, the two drivers argued, pointing their fingers and shouting.

The confrontation appeared



Lee Harvey: stabbed then throat was cut

to end and the Sierra driver returned to his car. But as he did so, his passenger climbed out and attacked Mr Harvey, stabbing his head, neck and upper body. He continued to slash his victim after he fell to the ground and when Miss Andrews tried to intervene, she suffered a cut eyebrow. The Sierra then drove off, leaving Mr Harvey to die in the road.

Superintendent Johnston said Mr Harvey did not appear to know his attackers. "This was a vicious, vicious crime. This was a sustained and vicious assault, there are some 15 wounds to the head, face and body, and clearly that must indicate some loss of control and vindictiveness."

Superintendent Johnston appealed to the Sierra driver and another passenger, who were not involved in the attack, to come forward. The killer was described as a very

overweight white man aged about 25 who was wearing a dark donkey jacket. The slim driver looked much younger, was about 5ft 6ins to 5ft 8ins tall with short dark hair. Their car was thought to have left the road three-quarters of a mile further down the lane and would probably have a damaged front nearside.

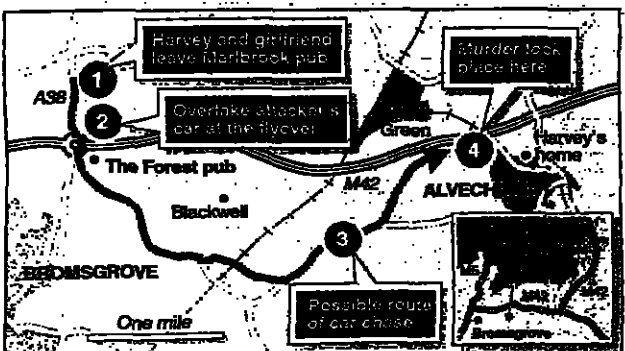
Mr Harvey, a former bus driver, and Miss Andrews, 27, had been engaged for two years and shared a flat in Alvechurch with their two children from previous relationships — Mr Harvey's five-year-old daughter, Danielle, and Miss Andrews's daughter Carla, who is six.

The killing is the latest in a series of road rage attacks and has marked similarities to the murder in May of Stephen Cameron, who was also stabbed and left bleeding to death in front of his fiancée. Mr Cameron was killed after he and the driver of a Land Rover Discovery got out of their vehicles to argue at traffic lights on the M25 sliproad at Swanley, Kent. Police are still seeking Kenneth Noye, who was cleared of murder after killing a policeman in the 1980s, in connection with the attack.

Other road rage victims include a cyclist who died after banging his head on the ground when a taxi driver swerved towards him. The taxi driver was last month jailed for 4½ years.

In May, a passenger was shot dead in London after the car he was travelling in did not stop after a minor accident, and in February, another passenger was beaten to death with a steering wheel lock in an argument about flashing headlights.

Other incidents have led to a doctor being jailed for pulling a starting pistol on a passenger in a dispute over a parking space, and another driver was jailed for five years after biting off another's nose and breaking the hip of a woman who tried to help.



Lady Scott at her Battersea home yesterday some hours before the meeting to consider her husband's future

I'm on the wagon, says Scott

By Andrew Pierce
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SIR NICHOLAS SCOTT, the Tory MP, rose at 6am yesterday to reveal in a series of radio and television interviews that he had given up drinking. The information, however, was aimed at wavering supporters in the Kensington and Chelsea Conservative Association rather than at viewers of BBC breakfast television, and was part of a carefully contrived strategy.

A group of 12 of Sir Nicholas's closest constituency supporters had gathered at his home on Sunday morning for a meeting to rehearse the best line of defence and attack. "He was told to fall on his sword, admit he had drunk too much in the past, but say he has since fought to conquer the problem," one Scott supporter said.

After Sir Nicholas, 63, a former minister, had breakfast with his wife Cecilia and eight-year-old daughter Amber at his terraced Battersea home, he was collected by a BBC car at 7am and taken to the BBC's Millbank studios for an interview on the Radio 4 Today programme at 7.20.

Today was chosen because so many members of the association listen to it.

Sir Nicholas stuck to the script agreed on Sunday, blaming his drinking on stress associated with being a Northern Ireland minister in the 1980s. "I have drunk very, very little over the past 18 months," he said. "It was a problem at one time. I think Northern Ireland started it."

"But my wife and I have discussed it very seriously. I have given her an undertaking that I won't drink in future. I shall renew that pledge to the association tonight."

Lady Scott, whose offer to speak at last night's selection battle had been rejected at the strategy meeting, listened at home. Sir Nicholas then moved into a nearby studio for the BBC breakfast television cameras. He repeated the line about press distortion of the incident in which he was found face down in the street at this year's Tory Party conference.

He insisted that he now drank "mainly" orange juice and fizzy water, having cut down on alcohol. This was necessary, he said, "because a

couple of years ago I think I was drinking too heavily. I didn't have a drink problem, but I was drinking too heavily."

Sir Nicholas was arrested for drink-driving and failing to stop at the scene of an accident 18 months ago. He was convicted last March. In the interview he added that anyone who knew him knew that he had limited his drinking "in the main" to orange juice and fizzy water.

Sir Nicholas then moved to a third studio to record a programme for BBC Westminster. He was driven back to his home to continue working on his opening and closing speeches to the meeting of the association. The telephone was switched off all day to ensure that he was not interrupted.

At midday he was collected by car for a lunchtime interview on ITN. The invitation to appear on BBC Newsnight was kept in his desk drawer. It would be accepted only if he won last night's vote.

Sir Nicholas returned to Battersea for a quiet lunch. In mid-afternoon he and his wife went for a long walk in Battersea Park. They returned



Sir Nicholas Scott

home to polish his speeches to the association and also drafted a winner's and loser's statement.

Daniel Johnson, page 16

Clarke refuses to budge on EMU policy

By Philip Webster and Charles Bremner
IN BRUSSELS

KENNETH CLARKE yesterday set his face against changing the Cabinet's wait-and-see policy on the single currency after reports that the Prime Minister might attempt to do so before the general election.

The Chancellor appeared to be locked in a trial of strength with a Cabinet majority as he gave a warning that ditching the present stance of leaving options open at the election would be both "senseless" and "preposterous".

Mr Clarke, at a meeting of European finance ministers in Brussels, took several opportunities to dismiss fresh reports that John Major was trying to abandon the wait-and-see line before the election and go to the country on a pledge to save the pound. He stopped short of threatening to resign if the policy changed but his words raised serious doubts over how he could stay if he were to be overruled.

However, Downing Street officials, while emphasising that the policy remained unchanged, appeared to be leaving open at least the prospect that it could be reviewed before the election. They said the Government would "take a decision on EMU (European monetary union) when it was appropriate to take a decision".

Informed sources close to the Prime Minister, however, emphasised last night that he was unlikely to change the policy. In April when the Cabinet decided on staging a referendum on the single currency, Mr Major said in an official statement that the Government would be "keeping our option open at the next election". When he reaffirmed that policy on October 5 in an

Continued on page 2, col 1

Halifax holds mortgage rate

The Halifax, Britain's biggest building society, is resisting pressure to follow Abbey National and lift its loan rate.

Halifax is holding mortgage rates at 6.99 per cent in spite of the move by its biggest rival to lift loan rates by a quarter percentage point. Increases by the Coventry and the Northern Rock brought to five the lenders that have put up rates. Page 27

Bullied clerk wins action

By Adrian Lee and Frances Gibb

LAWYERS predicted a surge of legal actions over bullying at work after a solicitor's clerk yesterday won a landmark private prosecution against his former employer.

The £200-a-week clerk, Joel Parkes, took out summonses against Robert Layton, a sole practitioner in Acton, after being sworn at and grabbed for failing to photocopy court papers. Layton was convicted of assault after Haringey magistrates in north London heard

that he went red with rage, shouted obscenities and struck Mr Parkes on the shoulder. The solicitor now faces a Law Society investigation and possible disciplinary proceedings which could lead to him being struck off.

Mr Parkes, 36, brought the action after the Crown Prosecution Service decided not to press charges. Two witnesses working at the same firm declined to give statements to police. But Mr Parkes issued summonses and both were forced to give evidence.

Awarding £30 compensa-

tion and £785 costs to Mr Parkes, who is now studying to become a solicitor, magistrates rejected a claim by Layton's counsel, Anthony Arledge, QC, that it was a trivial incident that happens in offices "day in, day out".

Lawyers are predicting a rise in legal actions over bullying at work. Last week new research for the Institute of Personnel and Development showed that one in eight people had been bullied in the past five years. More than half of those said

Continued on page 2, col 4



"Dad, are things happening at the office that you want to talk to us about?"

More students struck by meningitis

TWO Southampton college students were diagnosed as having meningitis yesterday. They bring to eight the number of cases since November 16. Two more occurred in October. A York University student also has the disease.

Ann-Marie O'Connor, 19, from Acton, and Samantha Milroy, from Stockport, have died of the illness at the University of Wales, Cardiff.

Parents grieve, page 6

Moira Stuart dresses up the news in genes

By Carol Midgley and Nigel Hawkes

THE BBC television presenter Moira Stuart yesterday became the latest celebrity newsreader to join the ranks of the so-called "great and good".

Ian Taylor, the Science Minister, announced she had been appointed as a "human face" to the Human Genetics Advisory Committee.

Last year Gillian Shepherd, the Education Secretary, appointed ITN's Trevor McDonald as chairman of the newly

created Better English Campaign, a steering group with the serious aim of declaring war on sloppy standards. Nick Ross, a Radio 4 presenter and anchorman of BBC Television's *Crimewatch UK*, is now considered an authority on crime prevention. In 1993 he was invited on to the National Board for Crime Prevention and is an active member of the Crime Concern National Youth Campaign.

The Channel 4 News presenter Jon Snow combines his full time job in television with chairing several charities. Nicholas Witchell, the BBC newsreader,

is involved with several charities, and Anna Ford is patron of the Turville Trust, an organisation set up to build a holiday centre for deprived children in Buckinghamshire.

But perhaps the busiest of the celebrity newsreaders is the BBC's Martyn Lewis, who at the last count had put his name to no fewer than 17 charities.

The Human Genetics Advisory Commission will be chaired by Sir Colin Campbell, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Nottingham. Its first meeting is expected to be early in the new year.

Buying The Times overseas:
Australia \$25.00; Belgium 8 Fr 80;
Canada \$1.50; Canada Post \$25.00;
Ceylon C.L. 20; Denmark 18.00;
Finland Fmk 17.00; France 14.00;
Germany DM 4.50; Gibraltar 50p;
Greece Dr 500; Netherlands Fl 4.50;
Italy L 4.500; Luxembourg 14.00;
Malta L 4.50; Norway 20.00; Portugal
Esc 350; Spain Ps 225; Sweden Skr 18.50;
Switzerland S Fr 4.00; Tunisia
Din 2.000; USA \$5.50.

The Times on the Internet
<http://www.the-times.co.uk>



TV & RADIO 56-57
WEATHER 26
CROSSWORDS 24-25

LETTERS 17
OBITUARIES 19
LIBBY PURVES 16

ARTS 44-46
CHESS & BRIDGE 49
COURT & SOCIAL 18

SPORT 47-50, 52
YOUR OWN BUSINESS 22
LAW REPORT 23

Speaker spoils the fun after MP invokes insulting tradition

"CAN I ask our blond and blue-eyed — if not exactly Finnish — Secretary of State, with his balding and brown-eyed junior minister..."

Rhodri Morgan got no further. "These personal remarks," protested Madam Speaker, "have no place in this chamber." She told Morgan to rephrase his question, avoiding unpleasant descriptions of the Welsh Secretary, William Hague, and the junior minister, Jonathan Evans.

But as personal remarks go, this windy, burbling, frizz-

haired, crag-faced sub-Patrick Moore of a Labour spokesman on Wales was mild at Welsh Questions yesterday. Contrast his gentle mockery with Mr Evans' predecessor as minister at the Welsh Office, Rod Richards (Clwyd NW). Speaking of Welsh Labour councillors, Mr Richards said: "They're all the same: slimy, short, fat and fundamentally corrupt."

"When I hear that name," the Prime Minister is said to have remarked of Euro-rebel Sir Richard Body (C, Holland

with Boston) "I hear the sound of white coats flapping." The quip was not meant to be repeated, but that is a risk any politician runs. "I wish that cow would resign!" muttered the (then) Northern Ireland minister, Richard Needham (C, Wiltshire N) into his (insecure) mobile telephone. Margaret Thatcher took it well, observing only that if this was the worst they said, she could live with it.

Over the past year, I have been assembling a mountain of clippings recording the



things politicians come to wish they had never said. A fellow-mischief-maker called Phil Mason — a magpie of parliamentary archives — has helped, and together we have compiled an anthology going back centuries.

The Baroness Thatcher comes out of any selection of unwise personal remarks with

dignity: the butt of much abuse, she herself was rarely personal. A personnel report, rejecting her for a job with ICI in 1948, noted: "This woman is headstrong, obstinate and dangerously self-opinionated."

Some 40 years later, President Mitterrand said that she had "the eyes of Caligula and the lips of Marilyn Mon-

roe". Calling her "empty-headed" on the Middle East, Jonathan Aiken explained: "She probably thinks the plural of sinus is Sinal." Aiken must now bitterly regret the jibe.

Labour's Tony Banks, who accused her of "behaving with all the sensitivity of a sex-starved box constrictor" regrets little. Sir Edward Heath hardly regrets replying (asked why Mrs Thatcher hated him so much) "I cannot say. I am not a doctor."

It is the prerogative of the great to be rude about each

other: Herr Kohl took with good humour a greeting from Bill Clinton at a Nato summit in 1994: "I was thinking of you last night, Helmut, because I was watching the sumo wrestling on TV."

Along with his "white coats" remark, Major doubtless regrets calling some of his Cabinet colleagues "bastards" and "scoundrels". All three men had been grinning happily. Miss Boothroyd was simply spoiling the fun.

Read My Lips is published by Robson Books.

Clarke

Continued from page 1 article in *The Times*, Mr Major said Britain should stay in the negotiations to defend its national interest and prevent the rest creating a failed EMU.

But the Downing Street sources said it would be wrong to read any differences into the April 5 and October 5 statements. They were both based on the likelihood that the time to make a decision about EMU entry would be after the election. An informed source said that reports to the contrary were "wishful thinking."

Mr Clarke was questioned about Mr Major's reported desire to ditch the wait-and-see policy when he arrived in Brussels. His response was uncompromising. "I don't believe that for one moment anything of that kind is being contemplated. It simply isn't going to happen."

But he pleased the sceptics by succeeding in Brussels in winning guarantees that rules on the euro and the stability pact would not apply to Britain outside a currency.

For once, Britain had little to do with the tension among EU ministers yesterday, as Theo Waigel, the German Finance Minister, flexed Bonn's monetary muscles, holding out against the wishes of all other states except The Netherlands, to allow a measure of political latitude in the stability pact. But by last night Germany was edging towards a compromise on the circumstances in which a government would be fined, for spending too much.

Towns 'face invasion of giant lorries'

By JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

A NEW generation of 44-tonne "super lorries" could be allowed unfettered access to the main-road network from 1999 under proposals released yesterday by the Government.

The current tight restrictions on the Continental-style six-axle juggernauts would be dropped between 1999 and 2001, according to a consultation document from the Department of Transport.

John Watts, the roads minister, said the move would take 6,500 smaller lorries off the roads as hauliers switched to the larger vehicles. The lorries can currently be used only for journeys between rail freight depots.

Mr Watts said that the six-axle trucks would cause no more damage to roads, bridges and buildings than 38-tonne lorries — the biggest currently allowed — because the load would be spread over six rather than five axles.

Environmental groups said the proposals spelt disaster for Britain's country towns and villages. Since the last increase in lorry weights — to 38 tonnes in 1983 — lorry mileage had increased by 30 per cent and freight mileage by 42 per cent, said Lynne Sloman, assistant director of Transport 2000.

"All research suggests that heavier lorries are more dangerous and intrusive," she said.

Britain's largest rail freight company, English, Welsh &

Scottish Railway (EWSR) also attacked the plan, claiming it would lose 20 per cent of its business, the equivalent of a million truck journeys a year, to truck firms.

The Government is obliged under European legislation to allow 40-tonne lorries on the roads from January 1999 and favours extending the use of the vehicles, which are widely used on the Continent. Ministers believe the arguments for the larger lorries are unanswerable but have decided to carry out full consultation.

The Freight Transport Association said that the vehicles would save more than 300 million litres of fuel each year and would result in fewer lorries and less congestion. The freight industry about £300 million a year — a drop of nearly 8 per cent on the cost of operating the present heaviest vehicles.

EWSR said the transfer of goods from rail to road would result in thousands more lorries per year pounding through country towns and villages. Historic towns such as Marlborough and Devizes could see an extra 24,000 lorries a year, the M74 through the lowlands of Scotland an extra 47,000 lorries a year and the A6 through the Peak District an additional 19,000 a year, according to its calculations.

Letters, page 17



Joel Parkes, who won a private prosecution for bullying

Bosses face rise in bullying claims

Continued from page 1 bullying was commonplace at their workplace.

Melissa Compton-Edwards of the institute said: "Bullying behaviour typically consists of unfair and excessive criticism, publicly insulting the victim, ignoring their point of view and constantly changing or setting unrealistic targets."

Legal actions over bad treatment by bosses — whether bullying, harassment or

overwork — are being categorised as "stress" claims and are likely to be brought in the civil courts.

Tania Sless, a solicitor with Davies Arnold Cooper, says there could be as many as 130 stress claims pending, although many may be settled out of court. They have been prompted by two rulings: in 1994, John Walker, a social worker, received £175,000 in settlement of his claim for a nervous breakdown caused by pressure of work. In 1995, Paul Pickering, a police officer, won an increased pension after proving he had been disabled by stress at work.

Bill Earnshaw, lecturer in employment law at the University of Manchester, says bullying claims are common in the United States. "Some may call these cases victimisation or persecution, but I would classify them as bullying in one form or another."

After yesterday's hearing, Layton, a solicitor for 16 years, said he would consider appealing. Mr Parkes, who is working for the Legal Aid Board while studying, said: "It was a nightmare working there. All I wanted was to see him in court for what he did."

Mr Parkes said he had arrived for work on May 17 to be confronted by Layton, who accused him of not having carried out work and began swearing violently when given an explanation.

"He punched me on the left shoulder and pulled me back as I was going past him. He raised his fist. It was a fight that was beginning. It was out of the blue. I pushed him and said 'Don't you touch me!'"

Another solicitor, Raymond Berretto, stepped between the two as Layton lunged again. Mr Parkes said "Bob was swearing and cursing, trying to get round him. He was growling and snarling with both fists clenched like he wanted to fight."

Under cross-examination by Mr Airdge, Mr Parkes accepted that the blow was landed with an open hand.

Mr Airdge said: "Is not Mr Layton, in the ordinary give and take of office life, as his employer, entitled to take hold of his arm?" To classify this as an assault would be "quite ludicrous," he added.

Adverts for bingo to be allowed on TV

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

BINGO operators are to be allowed to advertise their clubs and prizes on radio and television and in cinemas under further government plans announced yesterday to lift restrictions on the gaming industry.

Betting shops will also be permitted to advertise their facilities in the printed media but not on radio or television.

The move was welcomed by big companies in the industry who claim their business has been hit by the success of the National Lottery and Fear it will be further damaged by the imminent arrival of a midweek lottery draw. Under the proposals, the ban on the advertising of bingo on radio and television, including the amenities offered by clubs and the prizes to be won, would be lifted.

Advertisements would be required to conform with guidelines laid down by the Independent Television Commission and the Radio Authority and would not be allowed close to children's programmes. Betting shops will be allowed to advertise in newspapers, magazines and listings guides.

Simon Clarke of Ladbrokes said the move would particularly benefit small bookmakers. But he added: "All bookmakers are still urgently pursuing deregulation measures which will address the damage being done by the lottery and the threat posed by the arrival of a midweek draw."

The announcement is the latest in a series of initiatives designed to cut the red tape surrounding the gaming industry. Last month the Home Office published proposals to allow casinos to open in some of England's cathedral and spa towns, permit prospective members of casinos to apply for membership by post rather than in person and to give members access to other casinos within the same group. Payment is also to be allowed by debit card and the waiting time between applying for membership and being allowed at the gaming tables is to be halved to 24 hours.

Timothy Kirkhope, a junior Home Office Minister, said the latest measures were well-balanced. "It is time we allowed betting shops to advertise their locations and for bingo, which is a social 'soft' form of gambling, it makes sense to remove all the advertising restrictions in the gaming legislation which would mean operators could use broadcast media."

"I believe we are putting forward sensible and balanced proposals which will be of benefit to both bingo and betting shop customers and the respective industries. The plans will be put to the deregulation committees in both Houses of Parliament before going ahead."

The Government is still considering whether to allow public houses to open until midnight on Friday and Saturday nights after a consultation exercise disclosed deep divisions over the plan. Unless ministers move quickly it is unlikely the longer opening hours would be operating before the general election.

Labour drops pledge to end fundholding

Chris Smith, the Shadow Health Secretary, will announce today that Labour has dropped its opposition to GP fundholding and has abandoned plans to replace the scheme in the immediate future. Mr Smith is expected to tell a health conference in London that Labour will still allow family doctors to continue buying health for their patients.

Labour has traditionally opposed this NHS reform, claiming it results in two-tier health care. The party's draft manifesto published in July said: "We will replace GP fundholding with GP commissioning." Concern from GP fundholders, who now care for more than 50 per cent of the population, has prompted Tony Blair to soften the policy.

Ulster beatings increase

There have been 276 so-called punishment beatings in Northern Ireland so far this year, Sir John Wheeler, the Northern Ireland Security Minister, said. This is 59 more than the whole of last year. Of the attacks, 118 were by loyalist groups and the other 158 by republicans. The figures do not include punishment shootings. The Prime Minister said last week that an end to the beatings was a key condition to be met, with a ceasefire, before Sinn Féin would be allowed to enter all-party talks. Dirty tricks claim, page 6

Murders suspect held

A man who told police that he murdered two British women tourists on a beach four years ago is in custody in South Africa. Elijah Noam Sibuya, 24, told police that he had hacked to death Julie Goodwin, 32, and Elizabeth Over, 30, on the deserted beach in Sodwana Bay on the north coast of KwaZulu/Natal in November 1992. Magistrates in nearby Ubombo yesterday declined to accept the plea of guilty by the suspect and recorded one of not guilty, adjourning the case until December 23.

City tightens security

Armed police are to set up road blocks in and around Manchester in the run-up to Christmas as part of efforts, involving some 7,000 officers, to prevent a repetition of the IRA bombing of the city in June. Assistant Chief Constable Malcolm George said yesterday: "At the moment there is no specific intelligence to suggest Manchester city centre is an IRA target this Christmas, but we cannot afford to be complacent." There will be a free confidential hotline to encourage people to report suspicious activities.

No action against police

Police officers involved in arresting an asylum seeker who died after being put in a neck hold will face no disciplinary action, the Police Complaints Authority said. An inquest jury ruled earlier this year that Oluwesolajimi Lapite, a Nigerian decorator, was unlawfully killed. He died after a struggle with police as he was arrested outside a club in northeast London in December 1994 on suspicion of possessing cocaine. Mr Lapite later collapsed in a police van and was driven to hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

University head retires ill

A former director of the Victoria and Albert Museum is to take early retirement as Vice-Chancellor of the University of East Anglia, after having multiple sclerosis diagnosed. Dame Elizabeth Esteve-Coll, 58, left will leave when a replacement is found. As the museum director from 1988 to 1995, she drastically improved visitor figures but attracted criticism for being too "populist".

Airport fire safety fine

An airport was fined £12,500 for putting passengers' safety at risk by blocking off a fire exit during building work. If an emergency had occurred travellers would have headed to a marked fire exit at Luton airport only to find a sign saying "Entry strictly forbidden — contractors only". Luton Crown Court was told. Beyond the door they would have encountered a building site, with scaffolding, heavy machinery and numerous obstacles. The airport admitted charges under the Fire Precautions Act.

The cream of waterbeds

A Dutch company is seeking a patent for the cattle waterbeds that it claims will boost milk yield. About 180 of the water-filled rubber mats, which can be heated, have been delivered to a dairy farm in England. The farmer is so pleased with them that he has ordered another 100. "It is good for a cow to lie comfortably," a salesman for the Dunlop-Enerka factory said. "Cows can be compared to top athletes. Under the best circumstances they will give their greatest performances."

US aims to beat jinxed Mars record

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

SCIENTISTS from the American space agency NASA this morning hope to improve on the chequered record of recent missions to Mars.

Nasa's Global Surveyor, launched on November 7, is on its way, albeit with a defective solar wing, but Russia's Mars 96 ended in the Pacific Ocean soon after launch on November 16. "One near-miss, one miss and now it's our turn," said Curtis Clevett, today's launch operations manager for Mars Pathfinder. "We're all a little nervous. At least I am."

Mars Pathfinder contains a lander and a small robotic rover called Sojourner. It is due for launch just after 7 am this morning on a Delta rocket from Cape Canaveral, the timing determined by a flight plan which will take it direct to Mars. If all goes well it will arrive on the planet's surface on July 4, next year, Independence Day.

It will plunge towards the surface at 17,000 mph without tarrying in Mars orbit, open a parachute and then, just before impact, inflate two airbags and fire retro-rockets. When it hits, it will bounce, roll and tumble, the airbags at each corner protecting it from damage. It could

take several minutes to come to a halt. The bags will then be deflated and "petals" will open up to support the spacecraft and turn it right side up. It will take pictures, transmit data, and allow the six-wheeled Sojourner to leave down a ramp on to what should be a flatish floor of a dried-up flood plain.

Sojourner, with its battery of "test instruments," is designed to last for only about a week, though if the electronics survives the constant hot-cold cycling of the Martian day and night it may go on for longer. At \$196 million, Pathfinder is a low-cost mission, far less ambitious than the doomed Mars 96.

"Don't really understand the world behind travel insurance"

A very down to earth question.

The words 'American Express' are understood around the world. That's important if you're abroad and you find you need medical attention, cover for lost baggage or personal property, compensation for travel delay or funding for legal expenses. So if you need emergency assistance or even pre-travel advice, our representatives are on call 24 hours a day wherever on earth you are. We offer annual cover from just £59 and single trip policies that you need not be a Cardmember to take advantage of. You see, your travel insurance provider can make a world of difference.

To find out how we can help you do more with travel insurance, call:

0800 700737



Insurance Services

Policy terms and conditions are available upon request. American Express Services Europe Limited, Reg. Office, Portland House, 1 Stag Place, London SW1E 5BZ, Reg. No. 1833139.

TIN1

Businessman dissolved body in acid for crime better than an Agatha Christie, court told

Husband 'boasted wife was victim of perfect murder'

By A Staff Reporter

A BUSINESSMAN boasted that his wife's disappearance had been a perfect killing, a court was told yesterday. Russell Causley was alleged to have said it was "better than an Agatha Christie murder".

In 11 years, no trace of his wife Veronica has ever been found. He said she had run away after he moved his young mistress into their Bournemouth family home. In fact, Winchester Crown Court was told, her domineering husband had apparently killed her "with a shot of gas" and her body was dissolved in acid. He denies murder.

Anthony Donne, QC, prosecuting, said that Mr Causley lied to friends about his wife's whereabouts, and got his lover to forge her signature to make it look as if she was still alive.

It was only when Mr Causley, 53, found himself in prison for an insurance fraud that he bragged to another inmate about his undiscovered crime, it is alleged. He was also said to have talked with another prisoner about whether it was possible to be convicted of murder if no body has been found.

Mr Donne told the court: "He was not only ruthless in getting rid of his wife, he was

also entirely determined to get his own way. He is a clever, devious and cunning man. Having murdered her, he got rid of her body in such a way that it would never be found."

Mr Donne said that the businessman had married in September 1965, when his bride was 20. His surname then was Packman. They had a baby girl, Samantha, four years later, but the young mother was prevented from having contact with her own family. The first they knew of their grandchild was when the family made an unannounced visit. Her parents saw her just once more, in 1976, when again the family arrived without warning. They last heard from her in the summer of 1985 when, Mr Donne said, she "disappeared off the face of the earth".

The jury heard that the businessman had met his 25-year-old lover, Patricia Causley, when he opened an insurance business in Bournemouth in 1984. A few months later she had sold her flat and moved into the family home. After his wife's disappearance, he took his lover's name.

Veronica, then 40, vanished in June 1985 while her hus-

band and their teenage daughter were on a day trip to London. Her wedding ring was discovered on a note in the kitchen saying she could take no more. Upstairs her favourite ballgown was discovered slashed to pieces. But Mr Donne said that very few of her personal effects had gone missing, and she had left her Rolex watch and jewellery. Later it was discovered that no suitcases had been taken.

Mr Donne said: "Samantha remembers going with her father to London to meet Patricia Causley for lunch in the summer of 1985. She does not recall seeing her mother in the house. When they returned, she saw her mother's wedding ring in the kitchen and a note in her handwriting."

Later that month, the court was told, Mr Causley wrote to his solicitor saying he wanted his divorce to proceed on a 50-50 basis, and that he wanted to buy his wife's half of the house. In the letter he said: "She was not amused and walked out soon after". He claimed she had taken £20,000. He was said to have told friends a number of stories about where his wife had gone, for example that she had



The wife who vanished: Veronica Packman with her daughter, Samantha, and husband Russell, now on trial

gone off with a rich German, or that she had gone missing "with a guy in a red Porsche". He claimed she was in Switzerland, Malta and Germany, and that he had given her £30,000 as a settlement.

Mr Donne said that when one friend asked why he had not sold his house, Mr

Causley told them it had something to do with Veronica which would take seven years. Mr Donne told the court: "This is the time that presumption of death is made."

It was in 1990, said Mr Donne, that Mr Causley and his lover began transferring the house into their own

names. A woman telephoned a solicitor in Southampton, Hampshire, claiming to be Veronica. Later a woman arrived at the office and pretended to be her. It was really Patricia Causley, said Mr Donne.

In Brixton Prison, Mr Causley allegedly confessed to murder in a conversation with

a fellow inmate, who later told a probation officer. Later, Mr Causley was transferred to Ford Open prison, where he told another inmate: "I put her away peacefully with a shot of gas and put a plastic bag over her head. I used acid to get rid of the body." The trial continues.

Police seek man after wife is shot dead

By Richard Ford
HOME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE were last night looking for the estranged husband of a woman shot dead at a house where a children's birthday party was being held. Thomas McGhee, 53, had chased his screaming wife across a street after she fled to a neighbour's house.

Yesterday a white Vauxhall Astra car belonging to Mr McGhee was discovered abandoned six miles from the scene of the attack at Kimberley near Nottingham.

Police said they wanted to trace Mr McGhee, from Hinckley in Leicestershire. "He should not be approached," a police spokesman said. Relatives of his wife, Janet, have been moved to a secret address for their protection.

Mrs McGhee, 47, who has a young daughter, was chased by her husband as she ran from her home shortly before the shooting on Sunday evening. A witness said: "There was a boy's birthday party in the house she ran into. She was terrified and screaming."

"The children must have seen what happened because the gunman shot through the door. He shot her again and she died inside the house."

George Wood, another neighbour, said: "I heard two loud bangs. At first, I thought it was a car backfiring. When I looked out of the window I saw this chap running away down the driveway carrying a shotgun. He sped off in a white car."

Police protest as girls get two years for fatal kicking

By Lin Jenkins

TWO schoolgirls were ordered yesterday to serve two years' detention for kicking to death a girl who came to the aid of her friend in a fight on the way home from a funeral.

Louise Allen was pulled by the hair and kicked in the chest before falling to the ground where she was kicked in the head as a group of about 30 teenagers gathered to watch. She was killed by one of seven kicks to the head, described as being of only moderate force.

The victim's mother, the local MP, and police officers involved in the case reacted angrily to the sentence, claiming it was too short. Both girls were remanded in custody on May 21 this year and will be released after serving a year.

Detective Chief Inspector John Cordner, of Northamptonshire Police, said he would investigate what legal steps could be taken to have the sentence increased. "I am extremely disappointed," he said. "As a deterrent I would have expected more than a two-year sentence."

Ellen Allen, 35, the victim's mother, said: "They should have got at least four or five years."

William Powell, Conservative MP for Corby, said: "This case will have to be looked at by the Attorney-General who will obviously consider very

carefully whether to appeal for a stronger sentence."

The two girls, then aged 12 and 13, stood impassively in the dock at Nottingham Crown Court as Mr Justice Hadden told them: "It was wicked violence and it resulted in the totally unnecessary death of that young girl."

Both girls, from Corby, had been involved in one of a number of fights in the town while the funeral was visiting. On the evening of April 29, the 12-year-old started a fight with one of Louise's closest friends. She appeared to be winning and, with about 30 teenagers watching, Louise intervened and tried to pull the aggressor from her friend.

In a statement read to the court one girl told how she heard Louise say "I can't watch this any more," before she went to help. The 13-year-old pulled Louise away by the hair and kicked her in the chest. As she fell to the ground she was again kicked.

The witness added: "You could see she was not moving and it was like she was having an asthma attack. Someone shouted, 'What have you done?' The 13-year-old replied: 'Don't really care.' The 12-year-old went over to Louise shouting at her: 'Why did you jump into my fight?' The witness said: "Then she kicked her in the side of her head. The kick was quite hard."

Both girls left the scene. One was arrested later that night and the other the following morning. Both had admitted manslaughter at an earlier hearing.

Dr Clive Bouch, a Home Office pathologist, told the court that although Louise had seven bruises to her head, the largest was the fatal blow. He said the kick was of moderate severity and in most cases such a blow would have caused only minor injury. It was an "unlucky chance" that the injury proved fatal.

Both the girls responsible were said to have been bullied at school and were not aggressive.

Cot-death charity founder denies theft

By Paul Wilkinson

A YOUNG mother defrauded almost £37,000 from the charity she founded after her child died from cot death syndrome, a court was told yesterday.

Susan Howe set up a "cunning, calculated fraud", using a secret account. Donations paid into the charity's bank account were transferred 71 times to four others in the name of her partner, Kevin Sullivan, Liverpool Crown Court was told.

The thefts came to light when Iris Whitaker, Mrs Howe's administrative assistant, stumbled across a paying-in book and chequebook for the concealed account. Geoffrey Lowe, for the prosecution, said Mrs Howe told her the "welfare account" had been set up because of a £2,000 donation from *The Sun* to buy headstones and pay for funeral arrangements for bereaved families. It was a separate account because the paper had demanded anonymity, she told her.

Mrs Howe, 43, and Mr Sullivan, 40, from Formby, Merseyside, deny 19 charges of theft totalling £36,872 over 21 months from May 1992. Mrs Howe had founded the Cot Death Society after the death of her son in 1977. Its aims were to provide babies with breathing monitors and families of cot death victims with advice and counselling. She met Mr Sullivan in 1988 when he started as a fundraiser. Eventually he became a trustee and they set up home together, from where the society, a registered charity, was run.

Mr Lowe said that early in 1994 Mrs Whitaker began to suspect that money meant for the society was not going into the current account, although she could not understand how. Then on January 26, 1994, she came across the cheque book, and paying-in book for the welfare account.

When Mrs Howe was interviewed by police she claimed that the society owed her money.

The hearing continues.



Louise Allen: died after trying to help friend

Prayers for long service award

By Ruth Gledhill
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

FOR 300 determined worshippers a marathon Church of England service that lasted five hours left them on their knees and probably in the record books.

The Guinness Book of Records is to investigate claims that the service qualifies for an entry as the longest in the Church of England.

The service, in four churches in the London diocese, with the congregation walking three miles in a procession between the churches,

comes at a time when vicars are advised that sermons should be no more than 12 minutes and services no longer than an hour. Received wisdom in the Church of England is that most congregations cannot take more than one hour of worship.

The London service, taken by the Right Rev Brian Masters, the Area Bishop of Edmonton, was extended to allow the licensing of the Rev Nicholas Wheeler as priest-in-charge of four separate parishes in Camden, north London.

The Rev Jonathan Kester, the bishop's chaplain, said

most worshippers lasted the course. He felt "invigorated" rather than exhausted at the end. "People's attention was kept throughout," he said.

The service, on a Saturday, began at St Michael's in Camden Town. One hour later Father Wheeler, who is an Anglo-Catholic, is on the Church's traditionalist wing, was licensed again, at St Paul's chapel near by. From there the worshippers went to St Pancras Old Church where after more hymns and another licensing, the service entered its final hour at St Mary's Eversholt Street, next door to Euston station.

h d g t l o i r w t e o e A d t o t o t m n .

Here's a fresh idea.

Ricoh have put the paper catch trays and document sorter inside their new digital copier.

You'll find the new Aficio 200 has a healthy appetite for work, giving pin-sharp image quality at 20 copies per minute.

Its hole-in-the-middle design saves you office space by sorting and stacking documents in the heart of the machine.

To sweeten the deal, Ricoh give you the option of adding fax, printing and network modules.

Despite all-round digital ingenuity, there's no price premium to swallow. And that's the whole truth.

Aficio 200

Dial FREEPHONE 0800 303050 or fill in the coupon for details.

Name A800

Position

Company

Address

Postcode Telephone

Ricoh UK Limited, FREEPOST NW37N, 1 Plane Tree Crescent, Farnham, Middlesex TW13 7SR.

RICOH

Your most reliable office worker.

B&Q Environmental Update



Dr Alan Knight - B&Q's Quality & Environment Controller

Over six years ago, we put into place a planned programme to reduce the environmental impact of every product we sell.

This is our fourth annual update covering all the main areas of environmental activity during the past year and describing our plans for the future.

Timber & Forests

In 1991 we set two targets:
By the end of 1993: to have identified all the sources of our timber products down to forest level - achieved for over 98% (by volume).
By the end of 1995: all our timber products to come from well managed forests - only 1.5% of timber by volume failed.

Collecting and evaluating the data has been an intensive exercise involving one person working full time for over four years.

Independent Forest Certification - the best way forward

How can we be sure that timber is from well managed forests?

Until now evaluation of timber sources was dependent on 'internal scrutiny' - desk top studies and occasional visits to forests. The weaknesses are obvious, but it was all we had. But not anymore: we, like many other organisations, realised



back in 1990 that a more robust and credible system was needed. Forests must be independently certified. By working together B&Q and many other companies and environmental groups created The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)



© 1996 Forest Stewardship Council Inc. 094/008

The role of the FSC is to set the principles of good forest management and ensure that certification across the world operates to the same standard. We believe it currently represents the only credible system capable of operating globally.

Customers are just beginning to see the FSC trademark on timber products in our stores and as these become more widely available we hope marketing campaigns from other retailers (including competitors) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) will help customers recognise and buy these products in favour of non-certified products.

Products available at B&Q which have already been independently certified:

PRODUCT	SUPPLIER	COUNTRY
Exterior Doors	Chindwell	Malaysia
Charcoal	Charan Aldred, Rectella	South Africa
Interior Doors	Premium Timber	Poland
Edge Laminated Pine Boards	Premium Timber	Poland
Cabinet Doors	Premium Timber	Poland
Wooden Door Furniture	Douglas Kane	Poland
Parquet Flooring	Western Cork	Zimbabwe

Certification initiatives are also underway in other countries such as Ivory Coast, Ghana, Sri Lanka, UK and Sweden.

Some producers have genuine forest management problems and real practical problems to overcome. Others are simply reluctant to support the concept of certification. We shall continue to explain to them why we believe it is important but if they are not convinced we will have to buy from elsewhere.



Target - By the end of 1999 the only wood we buy will be from independently certified forests.

Paint

One in three pots of paint sold in the UK for domestic use is bought from a B&Q store. We believe that between 0.6% and 2% of all solvent emissions in the UK could be from paint bought at B&Q.

The figure is large enough for B&Q alone to make an impact on the overall reduction of solvents. Solvents contribute to low level smog, climate change and can aggravate asthma. They also have an unpleasant smell. The future can be solvent free and where technically impossible, low solvent paints are the answer.

The first stage is already underway. We are working with our suppliers to ensure there is a clear and precise message on every single can of paint we sell. At the moment, this is not the case.

From a total of 123 products there was the following confusing array of labels:

Claim Type	Claim	No of products
ODOUR	Low odour	66
	Low in odour	3
	Lower odour	5
	Lower odour formula	5
	Less odour than conventional glass paints	2
	Much less odour than ordinary emulsion	2
	Low aromatic solvents reduce odour	2
	No unpleasant odour	2
	TOTAL	87
WATER BASED	Waterbased	40
	Economical waterbased	1
	Waterborne copolymer emulsion	5
	Waterbased acrylic	1
LOW SOLVENT	Solvent free	6
	Free from solvents	4
	Solvent free waterbased formula	2
	Low solvent	5
	Low solvent formula	1
	Very little organic solvent	1
	Solvent based, the use of water based alternatives should be considered	1
	TOTAL	20
OZONE	Ozone friendly	6
	Contains no fluorocarbons	3
	Contains no CFCs	4
	TOTAL	13
LEAD	No lead added	10
	No added lead	1
	Contains no lead	7
	Contains no lead additives	1
PLANTS & ANIMALS	Harmed to plants	5
	Harmed to animals	1
	Harmed to plants and animals	1
	Harmed to plants and pests	2
	Plant and animal safe	1
	Harmed to plants when dry	2
	Harmed to plants and pets when dry	1
	TOTAL	13
RECYCLING	25% recycled steel (packaging)	12
	Recyclable	13
OTHER	Environmentally friendly	1
	Lower environmental impact in manufacture	2
	Official Sponsor WWF	7
	TOTAL	10

When we finalise our policy at the end of the year we will start phasing out claims such as 'environmentally friendly'. We have also worked with suppliers to agree a standard format for displaying the solvent content of all products.

Proposed Target - End of 1999: to reduce solvent emissions from B&Q paint by 30% (using 1996 figures as baseline).

As part of this process we will start introducing new products with a lower solvent content.

Target - December 1996: to finalise details of policy.

Target - End of June 1997: to have new labelling system in place.

Target - July 1997: to launch customer communication programme.

Charcoal

All our imported lumpwood charcoal is currently certified and next year all our new stock of briquettes and barbecue kits will be certified.

Charcoal production can help our forests in the UK. By working with the Bio



Regional Development Group, it has been possible to sell charcoal from coppiced woodlands in the nearest B&Q stores.

Last season local charcoal was on sale in 120 stores.

Target - by summer 1997: to buy locally produced charcoal for virtually all stores.

Target - by the end of 1997: to have 50% of UK sources of charcoal independently certified.

Working Conditions in Developing Countries

Working conditions in developing countries is a difficult and emotional issue. The most publicised example is the abuse of child or bonded labour. However, we believe the issue is more complex than just child labour. We have seen factories where as well as environment controls, health and safety can also be improved.

We have worked with suppliers to introduce basic health and safety measures in coir door mat, rug and brassware factories in India. We visit factories and if required request improvements. The scale and complexity of our supply base makes this a huge initiative.

By the end of 1996 we plan to finalise a method of audit and random follow up visits using local specialists for our entire Indian supply base. This will be used as a trial for similar initiatives across the world.

It will be several years before we are satisfied with the working conditions in our factories. However, we firmly believe working with our suppliers is the only way forward and is preferable to bans or boycotts which result in more hardship for the workers.

PVC

PVC has long been associated, rightly or wrongly, with dioxin contamination during PVC production and waste incineration. Also many PVC products contain phthalates. This chemical has been connected with the decline in fertility rates and the feminisation of some animal species. Some environmental campaigners are trying to persuade businesses to phase out PVC altogether. The industry has responded by focusing on the benefits of PVC and questioning the validity of the scientific theories. The issue facing B&Q is that both points of view have merit.

The science is ambiguous and there is as yet no consensus as to the true extent of the problem or to the solution. We will not take sides - but we want to do what is right for the environment.

We shall be financing a PhD student to work on this issue for three years to focus on reviewing the literature and relating it specifically to the B&Q product range. Chemical analyses will be undertaken as and when necessary. We will act on the research findings as soon as key facts are identified.

What of the other issues? Supplier Assessment

There are so many issues for B&Q to resolve, we cannot resolve them all alone. We must get all our suppliers involved. Since 1991, it has been company policy for all our 600 suppliers to have an environmental policy, backed up by an action plan. By the middle of 1994, over 95% of our suppliers had a policy - an improvement of 85% since 1991.

Building on that progress in July 1995 B&Q launched a supplier assessment programme called QUEST which included both quality and environmental performance. QUEST, which stands for the Quality, Ethics, Safety & Treatment of products, measures suppliers on ten key quality or environmental principles.

The extensive amount of information which needs to be processed has caused bottlenecks, but despite this we know that QUEST is the correct approach. Any suppliers not meeting a certain grade will not have any new products listed until they have addressed the problem concerned. Continued inaction will result in a company being de-listed. Of our existing suppliers, 30% have been reassessed and the average grades for the five environmental principles are:

QUEST 6

Average grade: 3.4
Environmental Policy and Awareness
Suppliers' understanding of the environmental issues associated with their products and their commitment to resolving them is graded by assessing the suppliers' published environmental policy.

QUEST 7

Average grade: 3.2
Environmental Action and Achievements
To ensure that a supplier's environmental achievement does not consist of only writing a good policy, suppliers' achievements are awarded a separate grade for action.

QUEST 8

Average grade: 2.5
International Supply Chains
B&Q believes that the issue of poor working conditions in factories in developing countries are a significant issue for retailers. Therefore suppliers' understanding and commitment to this issue is awarded a separate grade.

QUEST 9

Average grade: 3.9
Packaging and Environmental Claims
The suppliers' ability to meet all the possible future legal requirements to minimise the amount of packaging used and design for recycling is jointly assessed with the accuracy and benefits or problems caused by any environmental claims on a product.

QUEST 10

Average grade: 3.5
Timber
The suppliers' ability to meet B&Q's present and future requirements of its timber policy and targets.

This is based on existing Grade A = 5, Grade B = 4, Grade C = 3, Grade D = 2, Grade E = 1 and 592 suppliers as of 1/1/1996.

B&Q Store Performance - Waste Management & Local Agenda 21

We have the potential to make vast improvements in our own performance in terms of reducing our waste, recycling unused materials and working with the local community. This not only helps the environment but also saves us a small fortune!

Our Huddersfield store has formed a partnership with Kirklees Metropolitan Council addressing waste and energy management, staff awareness, customer communication plus community projects.

The store's waste minimisation initiative has involved donations of waste items to local schools and the staff together with Kirklees Metropolitan Council have cleaned up the stretch of the River Colne adjacent to the store.



The intention is to use this example as a case study to encourage other stores to become involved with their local authority's Local Agenda 21 programme. Agenda 21 is a global environmental action plan signed by the Government at the Earth Summit in 1992. All local councils are responsible for delivering improvements such as waste minimisation, energy efficiency and environmental enhancement.

QUEST for stores

In October we started to trial a new procedure for assessing the environmental performance of stores. This is based on QUEST for suppliers. There are 10 principles on which stores are graded.

1	Staff Awareness
2	Waste Legislation
3	Zero Waste
4	Litter Control
5	Customer Recycling Facilities
6	Energy Management
7	Customer Communication
8	Environmental and Community Interaction
9	Environmental Awareness of the Management Team
10	Enthusiasm of the Environmental Officer and Support from the Management Team

Forty stores are taking part in the pilot but it is intended to be available for all our stores by the middle of next year.

The more problems we solve, the more we find to solve

This is a summary of our actions. The complexity of the issues is immense and we know there is more we can do.

If you would like more detailed information, please fill in the coupon by ticking the relevant boxes and send it with a stamped addressed envelope (at least 21cm x 22cm) to: Dr. Alan Knight, B&Q plc, 1 Hampshire Corporate Park, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh, Hants, SO53 3YX.

☐ **How Green Is My Front Door?**
(120 page environment review)
July 95, 75p SAE

☐ **Timber Update**
(poster)
February 96, 25p SAE

Information on B&Q's environmental programme can also be found on our site on the Internet. The address is <http://www.diy.co.uk>

B&Q

Reporting on our impact on the environment.

Former Smith lets court know why he's miserable now

BY RICHARD DOUCE

SONGWRITER Stephen Morrissey treated the less well-known members of the pop band The Smiths as "mere session musicians as readily replaceable as the parts of a lawnmower", the High Court was told yesterday.

While he and Johnny Marr, lead guitarist, each took 40 per cent of the profits, Mike Joyce, the drummer, and Andy Rourke, the bass player, got 10

per cent. Joyce, 33, has launched a legal action claiming that his share of past profits could amount to as much as £1 million which he believes he is owed by Morrissey and Marr. He is also claiming a 25 per cent stake in royalties from any future sales instead of the 10 per cent he has been offered.

The Smiths were one of the most influential bands of the

1980s, renowned for Morrissey's doom-laden lyrics and mournful Mancunian delivery. Their hit singles included *Heaven Knows I'm Miserable Now* and *Girlfriend in a Carpool*.

Nigel Davis, QC, for Joyce, said it was not until after the bestselling band split up in 1987 that his client discovered he was getting only 10 per cent of the profits. "It may be that some will say this claim is a cynical piece of opportunism prompted by the dissolution of the group. We submit that's not fair. Mr Joyce's case is that it was only when the group dissolved he went to see his accountant and was told that he'd been getting only 10 per cent," Mr Davis said.

Rourke, who will be giving evidence in the four-day hearing, settled with Morrissey and Marr in the late 80s for £80,000 and 10 per cent of future royalties. Mr Davis told how the band was formed in Manchester in 1982 and broke



The Smiths at their moodiest: the singer and lead guitarist got 40 per cent; the drummer and bassist 10 per cent

up after "achieving very considerable" success. "They released a number of highly successful albums and highly successful singles. Their CDs continue to sell."

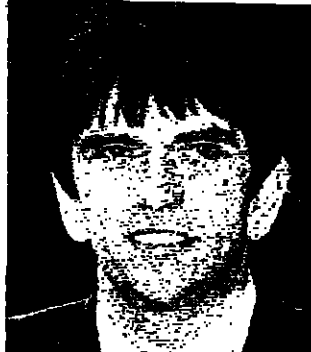
He said that Morrissey, who wrote the lyrics for the songs, and Marr, who wrote the music, were "clearly entitled" to the royalties from the group's songs and there was no dispute over that. But royalties for the recordings and profits from concerts by the group were paid to a company called Smithdom

Limited and Mr Joyce is claiming that as a partner he was entitled to a quarter share. "Now that it is admitted there was a partnership agreement between the four members of the band, the presumption is one of equality," Mr Davis said. However, both Morrissey and Marr "place emphasis on how much more important they were for the group."

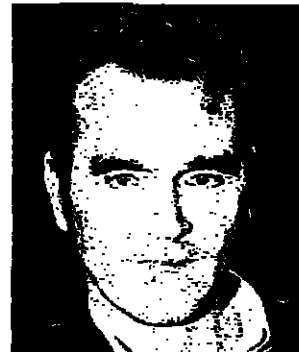
"They had the highest profile so far as the public were concerned but it would seem they'd go further and claim

they are much more talented. They seek to play down the importance of Joyce and Rourke. They seem to disparage them, saying they were mere session musicians."

Mr Davis said it was "wrong to rubbish" Rourke and Joyce's contribution. The court was told that after Joyce raised the matter with Morrissey in 1988 they subsequently received £270,000. The Smiths' popularity was based on the eccentric public image of Morrissey, who is now pursuing a solo career.



Mike Joyce, left, and Andy Rourke at court yesterday



Morrissey yesterday

Successful gardening at a stroke

By ROBIN YOUNG

TICKLING the rubers and stroking the strawberries could be the key to success in the garden.

Scientists at Sussex University have shown that plants respond to touch. In most cases, regular stroking or brushing will stunt upward growth and produce more branches, leaves and flowers. Gail Taylor, lecturer in plant biology, is also studying the effects of stimulation on runner beans "to see if stroking them can make them crop more heavily".

The effect is known in the plant world as thigmomorphogenesis or thigmotropism. It has been put to use in Japan and Holland, where nurserymen already use mechanical brushing systems to massage small seedlings so that they grow more compact and robust.

What is happening, Dr Taylor said, is that tactile contact, mechanical perturbation, vibration or disturbance alters the polarisation of membranes in the plants' cell walls, opening channels for the flow of calcium, which is important in most plants in controlling growth.

Princess homes in on people with no castle

By DOMINIC KENNEDY AND ALAN HAMILTON

DIANA, Princess of Wales described homeless young people as "Englishmen without a castle" yesterday. She left Kensington Palace, one of her two homes, to launch a Christmas appeal on behalf of runaway children before hosting a ballet performance for 200 guests in St James's Palace.

On a day in which she looked clearly at ease with her new role as a former member of the Royal Family, the Princess palpably enjoyed herself, demonstrating once again that she has lost none of her innate ability to attract the cameras and to bask in their attention.

She spent her morning highlighting the plight of runaways as young as 11 who have turned for help to Centrepoin, the homelessness charity, this year.

"If an Englishman's home is his castle, then what happens to that Englishman

Adebowale, Centrepoin's new chief executive, and exchanged whispers with him while other guests addressed the invited audience.

Later she met ten homeless people including Jason, 20, who first ran away from home aged 13. After being smacked by his mother, he used to fill bin liners with clothes and disappear for a few days to sleep in a workman's hut in a nature reserve in Winchester. He was taken into care, fell into debt to drug dealers and fled from them to London where he slept rough until being guided towards Centrepoin.

Later, for the first time since her divorce in August, the Princess hosted a function at St James's Palace, headquarters of the court of which she was once the leading light and where her former husband still keeps an apartment and his office.

The Princess, who is patron of English National Ballet, led 200 of the company's supporters and their guests in watching leading dancers, including the Hungarian Zoltan Solymosi, perform extracts from *The Nutcracker*, *Don Quixote*, *Alice in Wonderland* and *Unrequited Moments* in the Palace's Picture Gallery. Later the Princess and her guests sat down to dinner in the Palace's Throne and Entree Rooms.

Under the terms of her divorce, the Princess is allowed to use St James's for entertaining with the Queen's permission. By coincidence, the Princess's last visit to English National Ballet was on August 28, the day her divorce absolute was issued by the Divorce Registry at Somerset House. As a court official signed the papers, the Princess watched the first day of rehearsals for the autumn ballet season.

St James's Palace is used frequently by the Prince of Wales to host receptions on behalf of his wide portfolio of interests and charities. Even while she was married, the Princess used its state rooms only occasionally on her own behalf. The Palace, however, remains familiar to the Princess: her small private office remains there for the time being until alterations are completed at Kensington Palace, her London home, to allow it to move there as specified in the divorce settlement.

Next week the Princess is scheduled to address an international meeting of leprosy associations in London on Monday, before flying by Concorde later the same day to attend a charity ball in New York.



Diana, Princess of Wales at Centrepoin yesterday

when he has no home?" the Princess asked at the charity's annual meeting. "And if that Englishman is young — perhaps midtwenties, early twenties — what greater risks will confront him?"

Homelessness was not confined to the festive season but was a daily problem for many in our towns and cities, the Princess told the charity's supporters. "Neither are the homeless made up of 20 and 30-year-olds who have had their chance at life and failed miserably. The age of homeless youngsters is coming down. Children as young as 11 called on Centrepoin this year. Some had been running from physical and emotional violence, some from sexual abuse."

She concluded: "As the season of goodwill swings into gear I hope that all of us will be mindful of the Englishman who doesn't have a home to withdraw into."

The Princess made notes during a speech by Victor

Taking refuge in law

THE origin of the cliché "an Englishman's home [or house] is his castle" is legal, not literary (Philip Howard writes). Sir Edward Coke (1552-1634), Lord Chief Justice, who defended Charles I's royal prerogative, coined the phrase. "A man's house is his castle, et domus sua cuiusque tutissimum refugium (and everyone's home is his safest refuge)." And again: "The

house of everyone is to him as his castle and fortress, as well for his defence against injury and violence as for his repose." The Englishman's home is less of a castle than it used to be. Various public authorities have the right of entry under certain conditions. And the Englishman's castle may even be taken over and destroyed, consequent upon a compulsory purchase order.

The New Microsoft Network.

Internet stuff

The revolutionary new MSN™ makes getting started on the Internet as easy as using your TV. If you use Microsoft® Windows® 95, MSN makes the

come alive like you've never seen before.

MSN CD,
Box Set 213



Microsoft

Where do you want to go today?

www.msn.com



***T**HE AMERICAN SPIRIT IS SOMETHING TRULY SPECIAL IN THE AIR. *America is our home - we**

know it as only a true local can. And our enthusiasm for sharing it is apparent in the way that we

serve you. So the next time business takes you to the States, fly the airline that reflects the character of its

homeland so well, we even share a common name - American Airlines.SM For information or reservations, call

your travel agent or American Airlines on 0171 744 1234 or 0845 844 1234 (outside London). Or visit

the American Airlines Web site at <http://www.americanair.com>

American Airlines
Something special in the air.

Council censured over Masonic link with developers

BY IAN MURRAY, COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

FREEMASON councillors have been censured for the first time by the Local Government Ombudsman in a report that discloses extensive links between the organisation and the Conservative Party.

Investigating complaints that Masons made up a majority on a committee that approved three planning applications from fellow Masons, the ombudsman took the rare step of naming three of thirteen councillors for failing to declare an interest.

Since the office of ombudsman was set up in 1975, there have been more than 30 complaints about undue influence by Masons on councils, especially in planning cases. All of them have been rejected but public concern about Freemasonry has led to the publication of nine reports, even though this is not normal practice when a complaint has not been upheld.

The latest complaint concerns planning applications to Castle Point District Council in Essex between 1991 and 1994. The report found that eight members of the planning committee were Freemasons and that the partner of a ninth member was employed by one of the developers. A tenth committee member belonged to the same Conservative association as one of the developers whose home had been

used for fundraising functions.

The original application was by a Mason who sold the property concerned, at Carvey Island, to his son, also a Mason. The son later submitted two amended plans for a motel, car park and public house on the 1.2 acre site. His partner in the development was a Tory activist and close friend of another committee member.

"Rightly or wrongly Freemasonry is generally viewed with suspicion among non-masons, not least because of the secrecy attached to 'the Craft'," Jerry White, the Ombudsman, says in his report. "Knowing that a councillor and a planning applicant are Freemasons and members of the same Lodge, members of the public could reasonably think that such a private and exclusive relationship might influence the member when he came to consider the planning application."

The ombudsman felt that the applications would all have been approved, even if the councillors had declared an interest. He ruled therefore that the two residents who complained that the development had spoilt the value of their adjacent properties had suffered no injustice and awarded no compensation.

However, he found that

"some [council] members had little or no regard for the code [of conduct] they had undertaken to observe in circumstances which could only fuel suspicion and mistrust of the way in which the council went about its business".

Bill Sharp and Ron Sweeting, councillors who were members of the same Lodge and Chapter as two of the developers, were named for failing to declare an interest and were found guilty of maladministration. Elizabeth Wood, a committee member whose husband was a councillor in the same Lodge as one of the developers for 15 years, was also named and found guilty of maladministration because she did not declare an interest.

Mr Sweeting, 71, said: "He named us just because we are Masons. We are all completely innocent. There is no law against being a Mason and we have done nothing wrong anyway. There is nothing to answer for. Nobody suffered. We influenced nobody. Planning permission was approved by the government inspector."

Commander Michael Higgins, chief spokesman for the Freemasons, said that "by now the message ought to have gone out that they ought to declare an interest in this sort of case".



The first of 2½ million volumes is put in place in the basement by Simon Leavey, foreman of the removal team

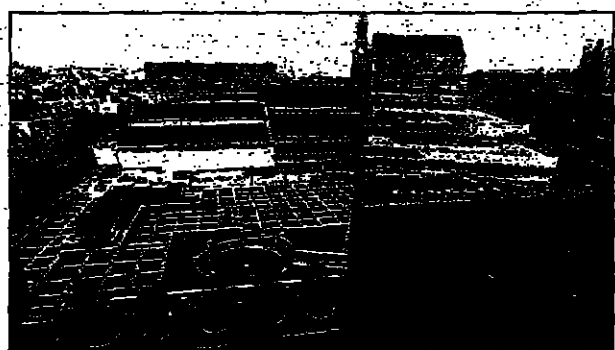
Book opens new chapter for library

BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH

AFTER 11 years of construction, countless delays and a barrage of criticism, the new British Library took delivery of some books yesterday. They were the first of 12 million volumes to be moved over 2½ years. The first reader will not be admitted until this time next year: the library should have opened in 1993.

Among staff there was a distinct sense of relief that the building, at St Pancras in London, was finally being put to good use. The first book to be placed on a shelf deep in the basement was *The Oxford Book of English Traditional Verse*, hastily produced by Brian Lang, the library's chief executive, to replace a rather more obscure offering from the first crate.

Mr Lang was said to be leaving behind the famous round Reading Room at the British Museum in Bloomsbury, where the likes of Marx, Thackeray and Shaw had worked. But the new library



The British Library will have cost £511m when finished

would be a roomier and more comfortable environment for both scholars and books. The reading room was "a Victorian space designed with Victorian technology" and now unsuitable for storing books. "Storing them here increases their lifetime by a factor of four or five."

On hand to welcome the first batch were Harold Pinter and Lady Antonia Fraser. "I'm very excited," the playwright said. "I think it's a great tribute to the endurance

of the people who work for the British Library who have put up with all the things that have happened in the past few years. It has hardly been their fault and the criticism has been very unfair." Pinter, who has donated a number of his manuscripts to the library, added: "I won't be coming here to work as I'm a playwright and don't have to research for my work. But I shall come to browse."

His wife, however, had spent hours in the old library.

"I have been going there for 43 years, since I left Oxford, and I hope to be one of the first in the new library. I felt quite exhilarated walking across the piazza in the sunshine this morning."

The library should have opened three years ago but delays have meant that the humanities reading room will not open until November next year and the full library until June 1999. The most precious historical artefacts, such as Magna Carta, Lindisfarne Gospels and a copy of the Gutenberg Bible, will be on display to the public from spring 1998.

The new building, designed by Colin St John Wilson, was first discussed 50 years ago. The final bill will be about £511 million. Inspectors found more than 230,000 defects in the construction, including electronic book shelves that ejected books on to the floor, inadequate fire protection systems and a ceiling that had to be rebuilt because it was too low.

Bishop of Argyll may return

Roderick Wright, the former Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, who is living in the Lake District with Kathleen Macpherson, a divorcee, could still be a priest, according to the Most Rev Thomas Winning, the Archbishop of Glasgow. "I wrote to Roddy and told him the door is always open," Cardinal Winning said.

Kray's denial

Charlie Kray pleaded not guilty at Woolwich Crown Court to conspiracy to import cocaine worth £78 million. Mr Kray, 70, from Sandstead, south London, was remanded in custody with two other men pending trial on April 14.

Hewitt banned

James Hewitt, 38, was banned from driving for a year and fined £450 with £140 costs for drink-driving. The former cavalry officer, who denied the charge, was found to have 97mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood. The legal limit is 80 mg.

Attackers jailed

Two German men have been jailed for an attack on three black Britons last June that left Noel Martin, 36, from Birmingham, paralysed from the neck down. A court in Potsdam sentenced the men to eight and five years.

Dustcart ditched

The road collapsed under a 26-tonne dustcart reversing during morning rounds at Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, pitching it into a 12ft hole and fracturing a gas main. Houses had to be evacuated. The area is prone to subsidence.

Token offence

The Isle of Wight council, which introduced eco-style tokens as a charity fundraising effort, admitted breaching coinage law. The council and Pobjoy Mini were given an absolute discharge by a magistrate at Newport.

All-star B & B

A former astronomy lecturer has opened a star-gazing guesthouse in East Barham, Norfolk, with glass panels and a telescope in every bedroom. Simon Baty will also offer talks and a computer link with Nasa.

City suspends grant officials

BY PAUL WILKINSON

TWO senior council officers in Sheffield have been suspended after an investigation into the way millions of pounds were distributed to ethnic minority groups.

An independent inquiry found "shortcomings" in the allocation two years ago of grants by the city's Department of Employment and Economic Development. A source at the council said the shortcomings involved incompetence rather than fraud.

At the time the department had a budget of about £5.5

million to distribute among projects to boost businesses started by Asian and Afro-Caribbean groups in the city.

The inquiry was set up in May last year after an internal investigation in December 1994 found evidence of mistakes in allocating money. The investigators produced a report that was never made public but is said to include suggestions that money was paid without applications actually being lodged or forms signed by the applicants.

It also claimed that money was sometimes paid direct to individuals with no check on

whether it reached the intended organisation. It also found that different council departments independently handed over cash to the same groups. In one case money was paid to 31 Yemeni groups to cover different courses that appeared to be held simultaneously with the same tutor.

Terry Hall and Laura Moynahan, the two officials suspended, are senior managers in the Department of Employment and Economic Development. Their conduct will be investigated and a decision made on possible disciplinary proceedings.

Television in Gaelic is a £31m turn-off

BY AUDREY MAGEE
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

IRELAND'S first Gaelic-language television station has flopped, according to initial viewing figures. Fewer than 13,000 people are watching programmes transmitted by the one-month-old *Teilifís na Gaeilge*. Marketing men have awarded it a "zero" rating.

The highest audience was launch night on October 31 when more than 300,000 people watched the actor Gabriel Byrne speaking Irish. The Hollywood star wrote and acted in an hour-long drama about Ireland in the 1960s.

Viewers have since slumped at the station, which cost £31 million to set up, with only children's programmes remaining popular.

The station, known as *TnaG*, insists the figures drawn up by Nielsen Market Research in Dublin are unreliable. Padraig O'Ciardha, spokesman for *TnaG*, said the high quality of the programming was receiving much praise from the public. "We are upset by them because we believe we are reaching a much larger audience than these figures would lead us to believe," Mr O'Ciardha said.

The Nielsen survey examines the viewing habits of 600 people around the Republic but Mr O'Ciardha said there was no way of knowing whether they had the proper facilities to receive *TnaG*'s signal. Only half the population receive it automatically — as cable subscribers.

The other half are equipped with old-style UHF aerials and receive only the Irish channels. They need an aerial extension to receive *TnaG*. But few have bothered because only 4 per cent of the population is native Irish-speaking.

The poor ratings will provide further ammunition for the many critics who predicted the station would be a waste of taxpayers' money.

The Welsh channel *S4C* has, by contrast, been a big success. After 14 years on air its most popular Welsh-speaking programmes attract audiences of up to 300,000.

British broadcasters seek crackdown on Irish who tune in free

BY NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE BBC and ITV are calling on the Irish Government to crack down on hundreds of unlicensed television groups that pirate their signals for nothing. British broadcasters are losing millions of pounds a year in potential royalties as the groups, said they want to reach rural areas of Ireland.

The typical system works simply and openly. In Co Donegal, masts have been erected along the border with Northern Ireland by "deflector" groups that feed signals to 51 smaller aerials in remote areas. Households pay a voluntary fee of £30 a year for the signal, which they pick up on conventional aerials.

Television fans in Co Cork use a different route, as they are more than 200 miles from the South Coast Community Broadcasting Service erected a mast 2,000ft up the Comeragh Mountains in Co Waterford, which picks up British signals from Wales. This is beamed to 23 aerials in Co Cork.

Radio Telefís Éireann, Ireland's state broadcaster, which provides a diet of dreary and stilted programmes across three channels, can

only watch with envy as viewers tune in across the Irish Sea. But the pirating of the British signal has proved too much for the BBC, ITV and Channel Four. Stephen Edwards, a London solicitor who collects royalties for the broadcasters, said they wanted the Irish Government to license the groups or to close them down.

"The Irish Government has, from time to time, said it would do something about it," he said. "But it hasn't. This is illegal."

His anger is shared by Irish cable companies that have government licences to provide British television to rural areas. Cable Management Ireland Ltd, which should have been beaming the signals to Co Donegal since 1993, is still battling with local television groups. It charges £105 a year.

Last week an incendiary device was found near the cable company's TV mast and equipment worth £100,000 was destroyed recently. The Donegal Community Television Support Group strenuously denies involvement.

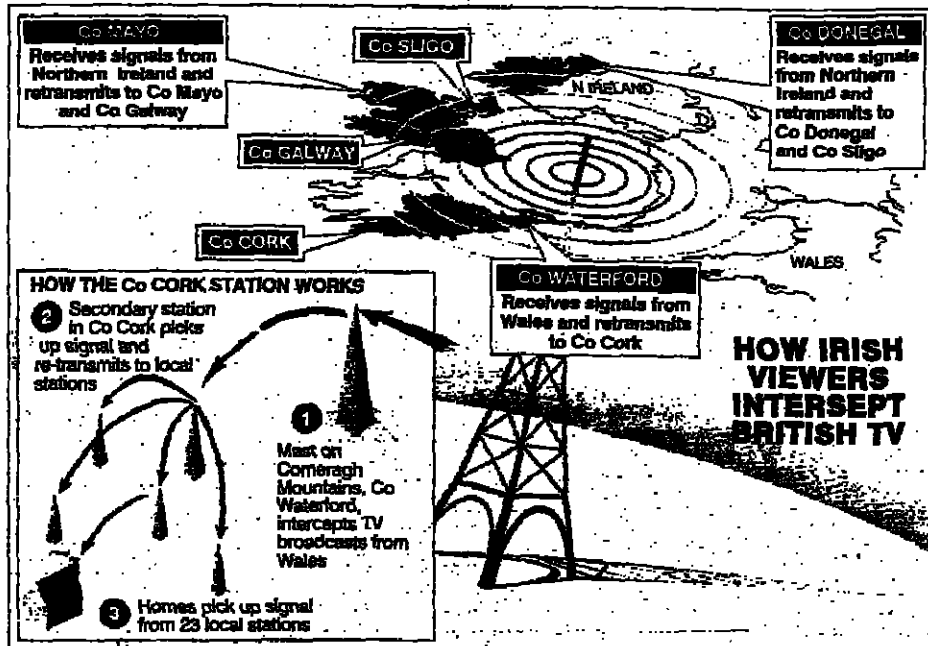
Ray Doyle, Cable Management's chief executive, said:

"The deflector groups portray themselves as a modern-day Robin Hood robbing the rich to help the poor. But they are just helping themselves by stealing the service. I find it difficult to understand how people can get away with this. Investors from abroad are astonished."

Politicians in the Republic tackle the "deflector" groups at their peril. In the last general election, the group in Co Cork put up a candidate who polled more than 2,000 votes, unsettling one of the candidates from the governing Fianna Fáil.

However, Eric Curtis, the secretary of the Irish National Community Television Association, insisted that the groups were doing nothing illegal and would like to be licensed. They are awaiting a court case that will rule whether the Government was wrong not to consider licensing them.

The Irish Government has appointed consultants from the European Broadcasting Union to examine the issue. Mr Curtis said: "We are not commercial and are strictly run by local communities. We developed the market. Cable companies want to cash in."



19.99

One number
that can get you
on any phone

CALL SURE

For just £19.99, a Callsure personal number can reach you on any phone in the UK*.

Through a quick and simple procedure, your calls can be diverted to whichever phone you're closest to.

The service is free of ongoing charges to customers and is available at The Carphone Warehouse, Dixon's The Link, Peoples Phone, MoCo, JWE Foneshops, DX Communications, selected main Post Offices and other reputable communications stores. For more information, call free on 08000 277277

£19.99

Astronomers see Royal Observatory sell-off knocked out of orbit

By Nigel Hawkes
SCIENCE EDITOR

A PLAN to privatise the Royal Observatory has been abandoned for the moment because of financial and legal problems. The decision was welcomed yesterday by Sir Martin Rees, the Astronomer Royal, who called on the Government to give up the idea altogether. An estimated £2 million had

been spent on preparing the sell-off. Sir Martin said: "I wish they had never embarked on it and now I think it should be abandoned. That would end the uncertainty and stop the waste of money."

Treasury reluctance to provide money to fund pensions and redundancy obligations for staff moving to the private sector is believed to have been one obstacle. Legal difficulties have also arisen over

international treaties involving British telescopes abroad.

Tony Bell, National Officer for the Institution of Professionals, Managers and Specialists, forecast that the retreat could mean other laboratories in the public sector being spared from privatisation. He said: "Public sector pensions are paid out of taxation, so there is no actual pension fund. Any company taking over the observatories

would have had to establish a fund to meet its pension obligations. The Treasury balked at producing the millions needed."

The Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council, which runs the Royal Greenwich Observatory — now based in Cambridge — and the Royal Edinburgh Observatory, declined to confirm this account. A spokesman said that the council would not be in a position to start

the tendering procedure through which the observatories would have been privatised before March.

The abandonment was announced in a parliamentary answer by the Science Minister Ian Taylor, who said that the council was determined to resolve the difficulties as soon as possible. Given the length of the likely delay "the current tendering exercise has been formally terminated". Dr

John Mulvey, of the pressure group Save British Science, said he believed that the bill for legal and other advice would be £2 million. "A lot of effort has been thrown away at the cost of research."

Sir Martin said that he could never understand the logic of privatising the observatories, as their commercial benefits were limited: "Spanish and American lawyers have been beavering away

for months trying to sort out agreements covering telescopes in the Canary Islands and in Hawaii. This has wasted a great deal of money and caused a lot of uncertainty, to the detriment of science. There is a case for running observatories in closer co-operation with universities, as in the US."

The observatories and telescopes employ about 300 people and cost about £15 million a year.



Paintings from Sir Denis Mahon's collection, which he may leave to Italian galleries: *A Sibyl holding a Scroll* by Guercino, *Saint Jerome* by Domenichino, and *Madonna of the Sparrow* by Guercino

Mahon threatens to send paintings to Italy

Art historian's displeasure deepens

By Damian Whitworth



Sir Denis: unhappy at government philosophy

SIR DENIS MAHON yesterday threatened to leave his fabulous collection of Italian baroque paintings to galleries in their native land if the Government failed to behave "in a civilised way" and meet his strict conditions for their distribution to British museums.

The eminent art history scholar said yesterday that he had already decided to bequeath a minor part of his collection to galleries in Bologna. He said the 61 works worth £25 million that were destined for the National Gallery in London and other institutions could also be sent out of the country if the Government

did not stop cutting arts funding. He recently met the Italian Prime Minister and praised his knowledge of art.

As reported in *The Times* yesterday, Sir Denis, 86, is stipulating in his will that the National Art Collections Fund (NACF) must withdraw his works from any gallery that is ever forced to sell any item from its permanent collection. He has also declared that his offer to leave the bulk of his collection to the nation will be withdrawn if the "downward trend" in central government funding of the arts continued. He may

also insist that his paintings be withdrawn from museums that introduce admission fees.

He refused to say yesterday exactly what the Government would have to do to ensure his collection passed to the nation. "I will just have to see what Virginia Bottomley [the National Heritage Secretary] has to say for herself," he said. "I want the Government to change its philosophy which is to go on cutting year after year. If they want to tread water that would be all right. But to let it slide like this is monstrous." The

works will be on display at the National Gallery in London in an exhibition entitled *Discovering the Italian Baroque: The Denis Mahon Collection*, from next February.

Sir Denis said he had been impressed when he met Romano Prodi, the Italian Prime Minister, who is from Bologna where many of the works were painted, on a recent trip to accept an award for promoting Italian art. "I saw him on the day that a minister had resigned, which was rather an awkward moment for him, but he gave me a quarter of an hour

of his time. He knew about the exhibition of my collection at the National Gallery. He wants to see this exhibition and I've agreed to show him round. He's a very civilised man."

Asked if his paintings could end up in Italy if the British Government failed to meet his criteria, he said: "We shall have to see if [the British Government] behaves in a civilised way or not."

Sir Denis's collection includes works by Guercino, Guido Reni and Pietro da Cortona, the most expensive of which cost him £2,000 in 1953. He proposes that they be distributed among the National Gallery in London and seven other museums.

£10m lottery cash offers new life to village halls

By Marcus Binney

PEELING paint, cracked plaster and dodgy loos should be things of the past for Britain's village halls under a £10 million lottery programme.

Recent surveys of the 8,500 halls in England found that more than half were built before 1930 and half no longer met modern standards and needs for lack of funding.

The scheme announced yesterday, named "21st-Century Halls for England", aims to fund up to 200 village hall projects, ranging from major refurbishments and extensions to new buildings. Action with Communities in Rural England (Acire) will administer the scheme, which is funded by the Millennium Commission.

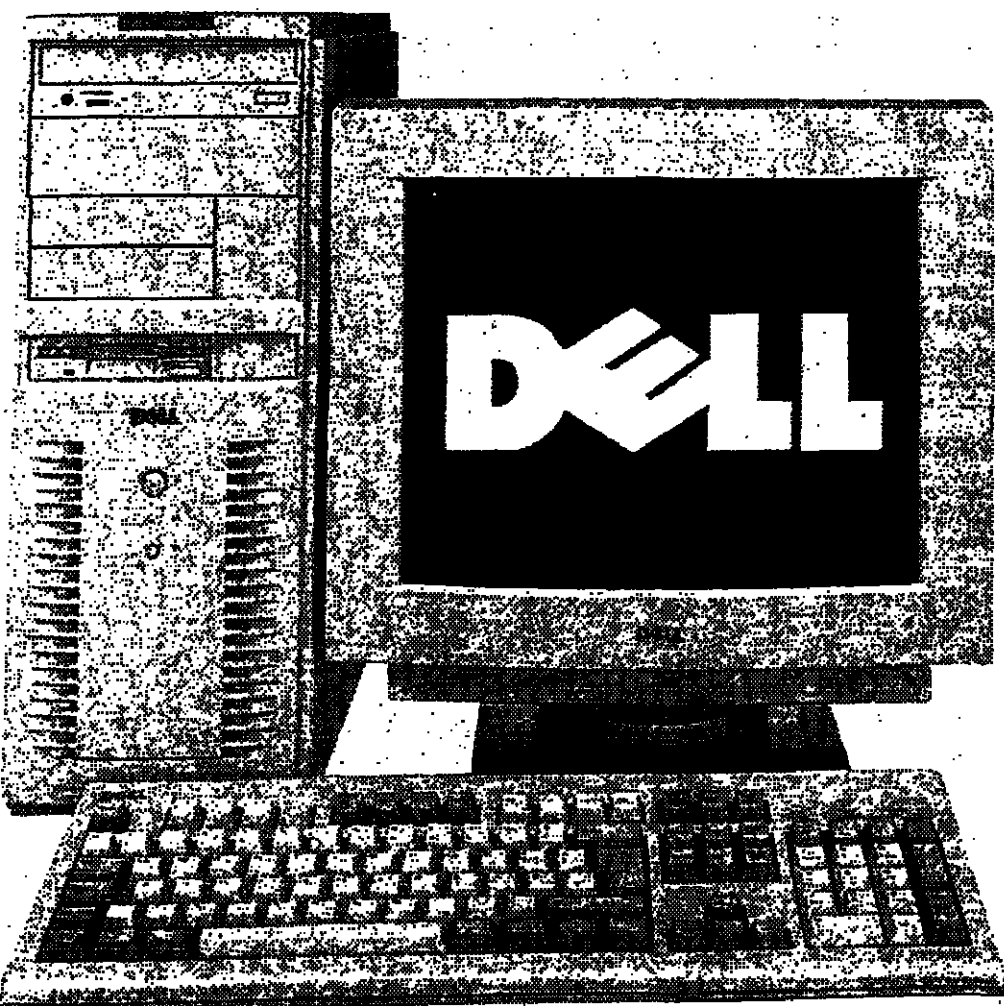
Les Roberts, director of Acire, said: "Each project must demonstrate high-quality design, energy efficiency and access for everyone. Many projects will include information-technology systems."

Architects and historians were quick to point out that the older halls were often the most attractive and sympathetically designed. The architect Roderick Graddidge, a specialist on the Edwardian period, commented: "They used the best architects and many leading arts and crafts figures of the day. They did it in the most romantic way. Each hall was related in both design and materials to its village." Many were built as war memorials. Others are converted RAF and Army huts.

A Millennium Commission spokesman said: "Our concern now is that designs should be of high quality. We are determined not to have a repeat of the 1950s, when many community halls of dismal appearance were built."

Politics, page 10
Leading article, page 17

Free memory. Don't forget to call.



You won't forget will you? For a limited period only, we're offering an extra 16Mb of SDRAM memory for free on the Dell Dimension™ XPS P133s, our value for money multimedia bundle. And remember it includes MS Office Pro pre-installed, making it ready to run and easy to use. It's also worth reminding you that Dell supplies excellent value portable and server products as well as desktops. Get in touch with the worlds largest PC manufacturer™ today on 01344 724672 and take advantage of our free offer. Time is running out.

DELL DIMENSION XPS P133s BONUS BUNDLE

- INTEL® 133MHz PENTIUM® PROCESSOR
- 16Mb SDRAM + EXTRA 16 MB SDRAM FREE
- 512Kb CACHE
- 2Gb EIDE HARD DRIVE
- NEW STB POWERGRAPH 64 3D PCI GRAPHICS CARD WITH 2Mb VIDEO MEMORY
- 15" COLOUR SVGA MONITOR (13.75" VIEWABLE AREA)
- EIGHT SPEED CD-ROM DRIVE
- MID-SIZED TOWER CHASSIS
- INTEGRATED 16-BIT SOUND AND ACS90 SPEAKERS
- MICROSOFT® WINDOWS 95 & MS OFFICE PROFESSIONAL 95

£1,199 (£1,438.20 incl. delivery + VAT)

**FREE
16MB
SDRAM
WORTH £120
LIMITED PERIOD ONLY**



Designed for
Microsoft
Windows 95



TALK DIRECT TO THE NUMBER ONE.
01344 724672
Between 8am and 8pm weekdays, 10am to 4pm Sat.

Cultural trust plan based on lottery aid

By James Landale

LABOUR plans to set up a "National Trust" to protect and promote Britain's intellectual and cultural heritage with money from the National Lottery.

The scheme, announced yesterday, would give financial help to talented young people working in the arts, sports, sciences, and technologies. After start-up funds from the lottery for up to five years, it would become a self-financing charity.

Money would also come from royalty donations and the ceding of intellectual copyright from established artists, sportsmen and scientists.

The idea is backed by the film producer Sir David Putnam, who said it was an exciting way to build on the creative ability of Britain's young people. "It should be for the 21st century what the National Trust has been for the 20th."

Labour would ban lawsuits over failed exams, says Blunkett

By Jill Sherman, Chief Political Correspondent

A LABOUR government would change the law to ensure that children who failed their examinations could not sue education authorities responsible for poorly performing schools, David Blunkett said yesterday.

The Shadow Education Secretary said it would be "disastrous" if fear of provoking legal action prevented inspectors from telling the truth about a school's standards.

Mr Blunkett made his comments as insurance companies representing education authorities said that they would fight claims for damages over bad examination results. Two 17-year-olds are claiming compensation for poor GCSE results at schools that have been heavily criticised by Ofsted, the schools inspection agency.

One of the teenagers left school two years ago without any GCSEs and the other got poorer grades than expected. Both are retaking their courses at sixth-form colleges

and are suing for loss of earnings and seeking compensation for the cost of tuition.

Mr Blunkett spoke of the dangers of allowing similar claims to proceed. "I can't see how we can go into a situation where there is a threat hanging over legitimate inspection, where revealing that something is wrong is then used in terms of taking legal action and where money is then withdrawn from a school which needs it desperately."

"It would be disastrous if legal advice precluded telling the truth about a school and then taking positive action to improve standards rather than paying compensation."

Yesterday insurance experts said there was little chance of anyone securing big out-of-court settlements like the £30,000 obtained by a man who had claimed damages for being bullied at school. The two latest cases are being prepared by Jack Rabinowitz, the London solicitor who acted

for the bullying victim. In that case the insurer, Sun Alliance, decided that it would be cheaper to settle out of court. Because the plaintiff was legally aided, the company would have been unable to recover its costs even if it won.

Yesterday Zurich Municipal, which insures most education authorities, said reports that 70 or more former pupils were preparing to sue schools over poor results radically changed the financial calculation. The firm would need to fight and win a test case.

School governors backed Mr Blunkett. Pat Petch, chairman of the National Governors' Council, said: "Unless there is urgent clarification, there is likely to be an ever-lengthening queue of young litigants. Schools will be hit by the cost of escalating insurance premiums if insurance companies decide to settle rather than fight cases."

Libby Purves, page 16



Victoria Scott, right, at the protest outside Parliament yesterday

Disabled activists protest at new law

By Dominic Kennedy, Social Affairs Correspondent

DISABLED rights campaigners protested outside Parliament yesterday against new laws that they say are inadequate.

The Disability Discrimination Act, which became law yesterday, makes it an offence to discriminate against disabled people in the workplace or in the provision of services by shops, hairdressers, cinemas and pubs. The protest by 100 people was organised by Rights Now, which believes that Parliament was wrong to exclude firms with fewer than 20 employees.

Among the protesters was Victoria Scott, whose campaign for handicapped people's rights helped to bring down her father as Minister for the Disabled. In 1994 she called on Sir Nicholas Scott to resign after he talked out previous legislation on the disabled. Yesterday she pushed a fellow demonstrator in a wheelchair as campaigners chained themselves to two buses in Whitehall in an attempt to block the highway.

Alistair Burt, Minister for the Disabled, said: "There are some campaigners who are still fighting the battles of yesterday."

Clarke's refusal to shift on Europe is not just defiance

Kenneth Clarke does not seriously believe that a re-elected Conservative Government would take Britain into a single currency in the first wave, or at any time in the next Parliament. Indeed, he expressed doubts last week about whether enough countries would genuinely meet the convergence criteria so that any monetary union is credible and sustainable. However, his determination to keep open the option of participation is not just a quixotic gesture of defiance, though the Chancellor does relish taunting his sceptic critics.

His real concerns are twofold. First, as he said last week and repeated yesterday, it is in Britain's interests to have a stable monetary union, whether we are in or out, because the likely participants are among our biggest export markets. So Britain should remain involved in the negotiations, and in particular over which countries qualify for membership.

Second, and more important, Mr Clarke believes that a government decision ruling out membership in the next Parliament would send a negative signal about Britain's broader relations with the European Union, and would be a big victory for the sceptics. It would be seen as a move towards the renegation of Britain's membership, which a growing group of Tory sceptics want.

Mr Clarke, and Michael Heseltine, fear the operation of a ratchet after a series of concessions to the sceptics in recent years. After being reluctantly persuaded last spring to agree to a referendum on a single currency, Mr Clarke is now determined to draw a line. Most of the Cabinet believe that he is not bluffing, and might resign if the "wait-and-see" policy is abandoned.

However, there is an ambiguity in the Government's position. Mr Clarke has stuck to the letter of the official statement after the Cabinet decision in April on the referendum that "we will be keeping our option open at the next general election". However, Downing Street was

yesterday saying "we will take decisions when there are decisions there to be taken". That could be a crucial let-out since it leaves open the possibility that, if the Government concludes in, say, February or March, that the position is clear over the form of monetary union, it could then decide it would not be right for Britain to enter in the first wave. And, hey presto, a gap would open up with Labour, which could be depicted as being willing to "sell out the pound", even though Robin Cook has emphasised Labour's doubts. That, at any rate, is the hope of the sceptics and they believe that John Major is on their side. Not surprisingly, Mr Clarke has been saying that final decisions on the shape of monetary union may not be taken until the European council after the general election.

For at least two years Mr Major has told people that he doubts whether any early monetary union will work, and, anyway, does not believe that Britain would join. But he has been constrained by the attitudes of Mr Heseltine and especially Mr Clarke, while, along with Malcolm Rifkind and Mr Clarke, he is worried about undermining Britain's influence in the negotiations.

Little is likely to happen in the short term. The sceptic press is trying to build up pressure on the Cabinet with stories where the wish is father to the news and wholly unscientific surveys of readers' views. But even sceptic Cabinet ministers do not want to force the issue now in view of Mr Clarke's refusal to shift. More likely is an attempt to reopen the question on the eve of the election or in a personal expression of view from Mr Major (the Huntingdon declaration option). Either would risk splitting the Cabinet. For the next five months, at any rate, Mr Clarke remains the most powerful man in the Government.

PETER RIDDELL

Ministers defeated in Police Bill vote

THE Government suffered its first defeat of this parliamentary session last night over plans to give employers access to job seekers' criminal records. (James Landale writes.)

Peers backed a move to exempt voluntary workers from having to pay for new criminal conviction certificates. Under the new Police Bill, certain employers will be able to request the certificates from a new Criminal Records Agency before they take on staff, especially those who would be working with children.

Voluntary groups feared that they would have to bear the cost to prevent potential workers being dissuaded from applying. The certificates will cost between £5 and £10. The amendment to the Bill, put forward by the former

Commons Speaker Lord Weatherill, secured a two-vote majority. A spokesman for Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, said that ministers would consider the implications of the vote before deciding whether to seek to reverse it in the Commons.

Baroness Hilton of Eggardon, for Labour, said: "This will be a great relief to many organisations which use volunteers, many of whom are young or unemployed and would not have been able to afford the fees."

IN PARLIAMENT

TODAY in the Commons health questions to the Prime Minister, Budget debate, final day; backbench debate on transport bills; in the Lords Scotland planning the second reading; National Health Service (Primary Care) Bill, second reading; debate on East to West 500, on racial and religious discrimination in revised European Treaty.

A PICTURE OF

If your income was suddenly slashed to £5,000 a year, could you cope? Could your family? Last year, thousands of people found out the hard way. Because of serious illness or injury, they were reduced to living on State handouts. And so were their families. Their employers were legally obliged to provide some help. But many of these people were out of work for six months or more. How patient would your boss be? How generous? Don't wait to find out. Talk to Norwich Union Healthcare now, and take out a SafeGuard Income Protection Plan. Because, to quote a popular phrase, it could be you.

MY FAMILY STRUGGLING

No one takes back problems very seriously. After all, a bad back is unlikely to kill you. But it can ruin your life. Because often, the only cure for a back injury is time. And if you're the main breadwinner in your family, time is not an option. Your employer's generosity won't last forever. Once they've fulfilled their legal obligation, you'll be shocked at just how quickly the cheques dry up. After that, you're in the hands of the State. If you're eligible (not everyone is), you may be surprised at how little you get. If you're married with a non-working spouse and one child, you'll be paid the princely sum of £23 a week. Is that enough? For all your weekly bills: Food, clothes, gas, electricity... it doesn't bear thinking about. Except that you have to. Because if you can't pay up your employers and if the State handout isn't enough, what can you do?

Well, apart from making sure you

don't let the last pennies you have up heavy objects, you can insure in a SafeGuard Income Protection Plan. From only £25 a month, it allows you to receive up to 80% of your earnings to help cover all types of illness or injury.

If you're a self-employed sole trader, your standard of living will be at risk if you lose your job due to incapacity. Every month, until you're fit enough to work again, SafeGuard provides you with a tax-free income to the agreed level of cover. Or if necessary, until you reach an agreed retirement age.

If you take only one piece of information out of this advert, this should be it: If you have to leave your job because of illness or injury, it's still down to you to look after yourself and your family. Not the State or your employer. You decide how much cover you want. If you don't, it won't happen to you, because last year over £100 million in claims were paid out over £100 million in claims. So it must have happened to someone.

If you're aged between 18 and 64, call now, free, on 0800 490 223.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS ON PROTECTING YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY WITH A SAFE GUARD INCOME PROTECTION PLAN, FILL IN THE COUPON.

Please return coupon to: Norwich Union Healthcare Ltd, Prospect, Churchfields House, Churchfields, Corporate Park, Templeton Way, Elmleigh, Hove, Sussex, BN1 3DQ.

Surname: _____

First Name(s) and title: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone (day) STD: _____

(evening) STD: _____

Telex (if any): _____

Occupation: _____

I AM AGED BETWEEN 18-64. PLEASE TICK THE BOX IF YOU ARE SELF-EMPLOYED. ☐

NORWICH UNION

No one protects more...
...than you. So make sure you're protected.



Boutros Ghali: vetoed by the Americans

African states end support for UN leader

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

AFRICAN nations have dropped their unanimous support for Boutros Boutros Ghali's bid for a second term as United Nations Secretary-General, throwing the race open to African candidates.

President Paul Biya of Cameroon, the current head of the Organisation of African Unity, has written to other African leaders asking them to nominate Africans. Mr Biya's letter breaks the stalemate that has existed since the United States implemented its veto in the UN Security Council last month to stop Dr Boutros Ghali serving another five-year term.

As precedent dictates that each continent should get two terms as UN chief, the 15-nation Security Council has agreed, at least initially, to consider only Africans for the post.

Diplomats now expect at least five African candidates to come forward: Kofi Annan, the Ghanaian head of UN peacekeeping; Salim Salim, the Tanzanian who runs the OAU; Hamid Algabid of Niger, who is head of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference; Amara Essy, the Foreign Minister of Ivory Coast; and his Senegalese counterpart, Moustapha Niasse.

Despite pressure for the UN to name its first female head, no African woman appears ready to run.

Graca Machel, the widow of the former Mozambican President and the current partner of South Africa's President Mandela, is mentioned with increasing frequency but is said to be reluctant to seek the post.

A decision on the appointment is required by the end of the year. If no African emerges with sufficient support, the contest will be opened to non-Africans and the attention will focus on candidates from Asia.

Leading article, page 17

RAF finds little trace of 'refugees'

Britain calls off alert for relief mission to Zaire

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

HUNDREDS of British troops on short notice to leave for Zaire have been stood down after an RAF Canberra reconnaissance aircraft flying over the region found no evidence of the reported 500,000-700,000 "missing" refugees.

The Canberra team, taking high-resolution photographs from 15,000ft over a wide expanse of eastern Zaire, found only one large concentration of refugees, about 150,000 west of Lake Kivu, near the village of Kilambo.

However, the RAF team of photographic interpreters noted that the surrounding area was well-cultivated. "This is agricultural land - not jungle. It is not Ethiopia," one senior defence source said yesterday.

The aerial photographs have provided convincing proof for the Ministry of Defence that there is no longer an urgent need to send a multinational force to search for refugees, previously regarded as "unaccounted for".

Six hundred Marines with 45 Commando Royal Marines will remain on 72 hours' notice to leave for Zaire. But this is the so-called "Spearhead Battalion" which is always on short notice to leave for trouble spots.

The rest of the units selected for possible deployment to Zaire, including the 1st Battalion Parachute Regiment, logistics elements and the headquarters of 5 Airborne Brigade which would have run the British presence in Zaire, have had their notice to leave increased from 72 hours to five days.

Britain has also made it clear it does not support the idea of air drops of humanitarian aid over eastern Zaire. Canada, the main advocate of this "last resort" proposal, is also understood to be "going off the idea".

The RAF Canberra PR9, which takes 700 photographs per sortie, has been flying over eastern Zaire for more than a

week, trying to find the missing refugees. American F3 Orion aircraft and reconnaissance satellites have also been sweeping over the area.

A United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) team managed to drive across the mountains and reach one of the camps spotted by the Canberra but it was already empty and the refugees had moved on.

The Canberra will remain in the area, based at Entebbe in Uganda, to carry out more flights to try to trace the movement of the 150,000 refugees. Searches have also continued further south to Lake Tanganyika and as far west as Shabunda.

However, one defence source said: "Judging by what the Canberra team discovered, I don't think it's likely that we'll be deploying a lot of troops to the area."

Apart from the large concentration of 150,000 refugees at Kilambo, the RAF team also came across much smaller pockets of refugees, increasing total numbers to about 200,000.

However, the defence sources said it was difficult when analysing the pictures to distinguish between locals and refugees when the photographs showed clusters of people in "marker" areas.

The Canberra team of about 40, backed up by three Hercules aircraft, has faced extraordinary difficulties in carrying out its task. Apart from the onset of the rainy season, the Canberra's take-offs from Entebbe have been limited by a migration of thousands of bats in the area, and when they reached eastern Zaire, the RAF crew had to fly through dust caused by the eruption of the Nyamulagira volcano.

There has also been concern over anti-aircraft fire. The American F3s came under fire last week which persuaded the Canberra team to remain flying at 15,000ft and not to drop to 10,000ft.



Andy Malthouse, a senior aircraftman, studies RAF reconnaissance pictures such as that, right, taken over eastern Zaire, showing the movement of refugees caught up in the conflict afflicting Central Africa

Tutsi rebels seize key town on Congo

BY SAM KILEY AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

TUTSI rebels in eastern Zaire, backed by Rwanda, claimed yesterday to have swept into Kisangani, a key town controlling the Congo River and Zaire's most important communications link.

John Kabunga, a commander in the rebel alliance, said rebel soldiers had entered the city, founded a hundred years ago by the British explorer Henry Morton Stanley. He said they had faced stiff resistance from

extremist Rwandan Hutu militiamen fighting alongside Zaire's ragtag army for several weeks.

"Our forces are now in control of parts of Kisangani. We went there by bypassing the town of Walekale, which is still giving us problems," Mr Kabunga said.

The fall of the whole of Kisangani looked imminent last night. Its capture would be the latest in a string of victories for the rebels who already control North and South Kivu provinces. They have vowed to march on to

Kinshasa, the Zairean capital, to depose the regime of ailing President Mobutu who is convalescing in the south of France after treatment for prostate cancer.

If the rebels manage to hold Kisangani, formerly known as Stanleyville, they will be able to lay siege to Kinshasa. The capital relies for much of its food from the Kivu provinces and on the Congo for contact with the interior of the country.

Mr Kabunga said there was still fighting around Walekale in Masisi, a rich agricultural

area 150 miles southeast of Kisangani, but that this area had been bypassed by his commandos, many of whom were trained in Rwanda and are dedicated to annihilating the *interahamwe* - the extremist Hutus responsible for the 1994 genocide in Rwanda.

The loss of Kisangani would not only be a major blow to Zaire's crumbling Government, but a significant embarrassment to the French Government which had been asked last week by President Mobutu to help to recruit mercenaries to secure the city.

US tries to placate Okinawa with floating base plan

FROM ROBERT WHYMAN IN TOKYO

THE United States and Japan yesterday agreed to reduce America's military presence on Okinawa and to build a floating helicopter base, but ruled out expected cuts in the number of US servicemen on the island.

The agreement, reached at a meeting attended by William Perry, the US Defence Secretary, followed a year of negotiations aimed at assuaging Okinawans' anger over the rape

of a schoolgirl by US servicemen last year. The agreement was given a mixed reception. "The feelings of the Okinawan people have not been taken into account," said Tetsuya Higa, Mayor of Nago, a city near the proposed floating base.

More than 2,500 people demonstrated in Nago at the weekend. Seven members of the Nago city assembly sent a letter of protest to Major-General Wayne Rollings, the US military commander at Okinawa. The US military will return about

12,000 acres, or 21 per cent of the land it occupies, and close part or all of 11 military facilities. As agreed in April by President Clinton and Ryutaro Hashimoto, Japan's Prime Minister, Futenma air station, a Marine Corps heliport in a densely populated area, will be returned to Japan. The two sides agreed to replace it with a floating base to be built off Okinawa's east coast and paid for by Japan. The exact location was not divulged because of intense local opposition. The agreement is intended to

reduce aircraft noise and the visibility of the US presence on an island that is home to 75 per cent of all American facilities in Japan. But it does not address the biggest issue for most islanders - the 28,000 US troops, mainly Marines, who are to remain. The rape of the 12-year-old Okinawa girl provoked a storm that forced Tokyo and Washington to look for ways to reduce the burden on the island.

However, as Okinawans noted bitterly, the planned floating base

will be connected to land by a pier or causeway, and so do nothing to protect them from soldiers.

America's bases on Okinawa - with their proximity to China and North Korea - have for decades been a key to US military strategy in the Pacific. Japan spends more than \$5 billion (£3 billion) a year to support US troops in Japan, covering roughly 70 per cent of the total cost. Japanese officials say the troops are a stabilising factor in an otherwise volatile region.

'Dead' man at his own funeral

Manila: Isidro Catarla turned up at his own wake at the weekend, starting his wife, parents and mourners, who fled. Confusion arose when the family mistakenly claimed the corpse of a drowned man at a funeral parlour believing it to be Catarla. Now police say that neighbours are demanding that his family return the money they donated for his funeral. (Reuters)

Six crucial facts about the fax machine you're about to buy

- 1. FAXING** Technology has moved on and value for money has increased. So before you buy any old fax machine, take a good look at the new plain paper M3700 from Muratec. It costs only £449 (+vat). Yet it's a lot more than just a fax machine.
- 2. PRINTING** Check that your new fax has a built-in class 1 modem, so it can be connected to your computer and used as a high quality printer and can send and receive faxes directly to or from your PC. The M3700 does all of these.
- 3. SCANNING** Make sure it has a computer interface so you can use your fax machine as a scanner and import images into your PC to illustrate your document files. The M3700 comes ready to plug into your PC.
- 4. COPYING** Consider the importance of a plain paper fax that can be used as a low volume or back up copier. The M3700 produces plain paper copies that don't curl or fade.
- 5. ANSWERPHONE** Look for a fax that incorporates a high quality digital answerphone with automatic voice/fax switching facilities. The M3700 gives you this - plus crystal clear messages.
- 6. THE FAX SUPPLIER** Buy from a company that specialises, Muratec only make faxes, so we have to be the best. We build fax machines with all these value added features built-in, not bolted on. So before you rush out and buy an ordinary fax, send for details on the multifunctional M3700. We'll also send you a FREE Guide to Fax Facts which contains a lot more details about buying faxes, call 0345 626782.

Muratec
the fax specialists

No. 1 Stoke Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4HW
Tel (01483) 302100 Fax (01483) 301900
http://www.muratec.co.uk

Tiananmen commander to call on Clinton

FROM JONATHAN MURSKY IN HONG KONG

CHINA'S Minister of National Defence, General Chi Haotian, starts an official visit to the United States tomorrow. Few Americans know, and are not being told, that he commanded the army during the Tiananmen Square killings in June 1989.

The American official biography of General Chi, compiled by intelligence sources and distributed by the Defence Department for public information, traces his life from his birth in 1929 to a peasant family, through his promotions during the Cultural Revolution and appointment as Chief of the General Staff from 1987-1993, to his present post in 1993.

But the handbook neglects his operational control on the night of June 3-4, 1989. According to an American army biographical handbook, General Chi, as Chief of Staff, commanded well over 300,000 troops from 14 army groups and two airborne brigades during the operation in which many hundreds of people in and around Tiananmen Square were killed and many more wounded. These facts are also omitted from his official Chinese biography.

Tiananmen is a sensitive subject with many Americans and his hosts are eager to minimise General Chi's role. During his visit he will meet President Clinton and other top officials. Two previous planned visits, in 1995 and the spring of this year, were cancelled because of Peking's manoeuvres off Taiwan.

Beirut gambles on being playground of the Middle East as casino reopens

FROM MICHAEL THYDODULOU IN BEIRUT

SIX years after the militiamen, kidnapers and car bombers went into retirement, the Middle East's most famous casino and glitziest symbol of Lebanon's heyday reopens tonight. It has taken a \$30 million facelift to wipe away the damage inflicted by 15 years of civil war.

Despite ongoing battles in southern Lebanon and daily exchanges of bellicose rhetoric between Syria and Israel, officials say serious gamblers are queuing up to try their luck at the resurrected Casino du Liban, where celebrities such as Frank Sinatra and Charles Aznavour entertained high-rolling Arab oil sheikhs and European jet-setters.

"We've seen huge interest from the Gulf Arabs," Nicholas Crabtree, the casino's vice-president, said. "It's just a matter of time before the cruise ships turn up here like they did in late shipping magnate Aristotel Onassis's day when we had stars like Brigitte Bardot and Sophia Loren."

Observers insist that paralysis in the Middle East peace talks will not harm business at the casino, a rarity in the Arab world where Islamic law forbids gambling.

Gambling breaks all social, political and ethnic barriers as everyone unites to beat the house," Mr Crabtree said. He is a Londoner and one of about 20 British on the gaming staff of 54 directed by London Club International which manages the gambling. "During the Gulf War, I was running a casino in Mayfair where we had people from all the major parties to the con-



In the Sixties, the Casino du Liban rivalled Monte Carlo and outshone Las Vegas

flict gambling happily alongside each other."

The history of the Casino du Liban, which first opened in 1958, tells a similar tale. When civil war erupted in Lebanon in 1975, Muslims and Christians who battled by day crossed the sectarian divide to gamble. Only in 1989 did the roulette wheels grind to a halt - a year before the war ended, when militiamen shelled the complex.

It has taken 18 months to renovate the shrapnel-pocked building. Now there are 60 gaming tables offering roulette, blackjack and stud poker. Professional gamblers, who can afford to lose \$20,000 (\$12,000) a night, will be invited to three private rooms where a minimum bet is \$150. Lebanese, however, need to declare they earn \$12,000 a year, which will bar the vast

majority of them from the gaming tables. But the 320 slot machines are open to all.

Mr Crabtree expects profits in the first year to reach \$18 million. These will increase next year when a 750-seat restaurant with facilities to stage international shows is completed.

In its glory days, when the casino rivalled Monte Carlo and outshone Las Vegas, Miss Europe was crowned here for five consecutive years. The last phase of the renovation project will include a 150-bed, five-star hotel.

The casino is being promoted as a symbol of Lebanon's phoenix-like revival. But many Lebanese are unconvinced that they will gain from such prestige projects. A third of the three million population live below the poverty line, according to a

United Nations study. Last week, while dozens of workers were putting the finishing touches for the casino's inauguration by President Hrawi, hundreds of Lebanese protested in the streets after trade unions called for a strike. The demonstrators were dispersed by riot police.

Leading article, page 17

How near we are to the cure... depends on you

LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND
483 Great Ormond Street
London WC1N 3JJ
Tel: 0171 405 0101
Voluntary branches throughout Britain. Ring charity 21 6032

Clinton's dr
Germans c
role of Je
vazi war m
ident unearth
vice records
Secur
fixed
Tyson se

Clinton's drift to the Right seals fate of liberalism in America



Reno: the sole liberal voice from first term

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

AS PRESIDENT CLINTON turns to the business of selecting his new Cabinet, postponed over Thanksgiving, those who have made a career out of liberal politics are wondering whether it is time to leave Washington. The word has gone out: there is little point in liberals applying for jobs in this Administration.

Warning bells sounded for them when Mr Clinton replaced Chief of Staff Leon Panetta, a liberal Californian, with Erskine Bowles, a conservative from North Carolina. Harold Ickes, a noted New York liberal and one of Mr Clinton's most trusted advisers as Deputy Chief of Staff, is leaving for home now that his

chances of a Cabinet role have vanished. Janet Reno, apparently secure as Attorney-General while inquiries into the Clinton finances continue, remains the sole liberal voice from the first term.

More generally, Democrats as well as Republicans are arguing that Clinton's re-election on a strikingly conservative platform, plus the election of a more right-wing Congress, confirms the country's long-predicted shift to the Right. Liberalism of the brand which flourished in the 1960s and 70s is dead.

There is much truth behind the liberals' lament. For years, conservatives have blamed liberal social attitudes for the nation's woes. Robert Bork, the Supreme Court candidate who was rejected after a bitter-

ly contested nomination, in his book *Slouching towards Gomorrah*, accuses liberal attitudes of encouraging "a nation of culturally corrupt citizens who have abandoned ideas of religious faith, respect for law, hard work and family".

What is new is that these voices have been joined by others on the left of the spectrum. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, the figurehead of Washington liberalism, attacks many "liberals" in his new book for holding that mental illness and single-parent families were not problems, simply choices of lifestyle.

Even more damaging for left-leaning politicians, the term "liberal" has become associated with unpopular economic policies: high taxes and defence cutbacks

used to pay for big government social programmes. The growth of the middle class has made these policies electorally disastrous. The offspring of blue-collar immigrants who made up the bedrock of Democratic support have settled in the suburbs and are worried about job security and school fees. The result is that "liberal" has become a dirty word. Voters prefer to hear a message of hard work and individualism.

Mr Clinton was re-elected partly because he was alert to the rightward-shift in the political climate, denying fervently that he was a liberal in televised debates before the election. That is not a new incarnation. The images of him avoiding conscription, raising a marijuana

joint to his lips, and wearing a beard while at Oxford are deceptive. He has built his political career on a pragmatic courting of the Centre. He has now signed a Republican-backed welfare Bill which undercuts six decades of social welfare provision.

However, there is one prominent exception to the rejection of the 1970s liberal agenda by voters and the Clinton Administration: the race issue. The O.J. Simpson trials and the "Million Man March" of black men in Washington are a reminder of the deep divisions in American society. Many still look to Government and the courts to solve them — witness Texasco's offer of more than \$100 million (£60 million) to settle a charge of discrimination.

In his campaign, Mr Clinton preached loudly a message of inclusiveness: "If you believe in the Declaration of Independence, and you turn up for work and do your share, we don't need to know anything else about you — you're part of our America." This was very different from Republican candidate Bob Dole's refrain that hard-working middle-class people should not have to pay for immigrants and the unemployed.

Mr Clinton may be one of the few Democratic Presidents to consider the tag of "liberal" slanderous. But in his message that government is responsible — and capable — of promoting social harmony, he preserves one strand of the 1970s liberal agenda.

Germans confront role of Jews in Nazi war machine

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

VOLKER RÜHE, the German Defence Minister, yesterday opened an exhibition which tackles for the first time the Jewish contribution to the German and Prussian armies — a highly sensitive topic which is likely to fuel an already fierce debate about wartime anti-Semitism.

At the beginning of the exhibition, organised by the Military Historical Research Institute in Potsdam, there is a picture of a shopkeeper, Richard Stern. The date of the photograph is April 1, 1933 and the Jewish merchant is protesting against the boycott of Jewish shops in Cologne; on his chest he wears an Iron Cross, won during the First World War.

This image dominates not only the exhibition, but the

whole debate as to how Germany could so readily assimilate Jews — to such an extent that 100,000 fought for them in the First World War — and then in a few decades banish them from society and murder almost the whole community.

Adolf Hitler embodies this paradox. A new book by Dr Brigitte Hamann, *Hitler's Vienna*, shows convincingly that Hitler's hatred for Jews was not hatched during his early years and that it was rather a political device aimed at drumming up a mass movement.

Hitler, according to Dr Hamann's research, had Jewish friends, patrons and customers for his drawings, and admitted Jewish actors and composers. There is at least

one proven case of him protecting a Jewish friend. His old family doctor, Eduard Bloch, was allowed to carry Aryan identity papers and when he eventually emigrated to the United States, was allowed to sell his house at a proper market price. Other beneficiaries included Maria Almas-Dietrich, twice married to Jewish men, who sold over 270 paintings to Hitler.

Whether Hitler protected top soldiers in the same way is unclear. There were protective networks in each of the German military institutions. The Luftwaffe — and not only Field Marshal Erhard Milch who was protected by Hermann Goering — contained a number of Germans of Jewish descent. In 1940 soldiers with two Jewish grandfathers were expelled from the army and the order was repeated in 1942, 1943 and 1944.

But those with only one Jewish grandparent were usually allowed to continue in the army, although generally barred from entering the officer corps. Some — including former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt — slipped through the net, despite their Jewish grandfathers. Herr Schmidt became a lieutenant in the artillery.

Few Germans in wartime were immune from investigation of their ancestry. Even Reinhard Heydrich, the tall, Nordic-looking head of the Reich Security Service, was frequently accused of having a Jewish father.

Again and again he brought legal suits against anyone who claimed that he had Jewish blood.

Hitler and Heinrich Himmler, overall head of the Nazi police machine, were aware of the doubts about Heydrich's ancestry but did nothing: he

was regarded as too useful and, until his assassination in Prague in 1942, was utterly ruthless towards Jews. Since the Gestapo was the supreme arbiter of Jewish ancestry, exceptions could always be found and biographies faked.

Two debates have been opened in Germany and both have begun to touch on the most sensitive of subjects. The first concerns Hitler: if doubt can be shed on his early anti-Semitism, can doubt also be

cast on his personal involvement in the Holocaust? The German historian Joachim Fest (who argues that Hitler was intimately involved in, and gave the direct order for, the elimination of the Jews) is feuding with Hans Mommsen, who claims that the Nazis drifted towards the Holocaust.

The second great debate which has now begun concerns the identity of Jews in Germany. Naval Captain Frank Noegler, the military



Dr Hans Ehlert, an officer and historian, visits the Potsdam exhibition yesterday

Campaign donor sought change in US policy on Asia

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE White House kept secret until after President Clinton's re-election a letter from an Indonesian billionaire, at the centre of controversy over foreign donations to the Democratic Party, which urged him to alter American policy in the Far East.

In the letter, written in March 1993, months after the President first took office, Mochtar Riady, a Lippo Group executive, called on Mr Clinton to "normalise" relations with Vietnam and ignore human rights violations in China and Indonesia. The existence of the letter, revealed by *The Wall Street Journal* yesterday, undermined at a single stroke efforts by the White House to portray the relationship between the President and the influential Indonesian family as purely social.

It is also likely further to encourage Republicans who have promised to set up congressional hearings — over Democratic fundraising after the failure last week of Janet Reno, the Attorney General, to appoint an independent prosecutor to investigate the issue.

Don Nickles and John McCain, two of the most senior Republican senators, said they disagreed with Ms Reno's conclusion that there was no credible evidence of impropriety by the President, Vice-President Al Gore, or top Administration officials over fundraising.

"We will place more emphasis on congressional hearings which are not always the most non-partisan way of addressing these issues, unfortunately," Mr McCain said.

The senator also questioned Mr Clinton's links with Mr Riady's son James, another big Democratic contributor who discussed Asian trade policy during 20 private visits to the White House in the past four years. The Riadys, who first met the Clintons in Arkansas, emerged shortly before last month's election at the apex of a network of Asian contributors. At best, critics believe they bought political favours but some claim that policy changes have been bought.

The family secured an influential post at the Commerce Department for one of its trusted Lippo lieutenants, John Huang, who later became a senior fundraiser for the Democratic Party. Mr Huang, who was dismissed when Clinton officials saw potential political embarrassment, is at the heart of a House inquiry into Arkansas connections with Indonesia in the 1970s and 1980s.

"Indagate", which increasingly is beginning to appear as the Whitewater of Mr Clinton's second term, is likely to hinge on how much influence was bought by large donations. The Lippo Group conglomerate has been linked to more than \$1 million (£595,000) in questionable contributions. The Riadys are also thought to have campaigned for preferential trading in Asia, including China. But the letter from Mochtar Riady appeared last night to provide the first concrete evidence of hard lobbying.

Mr Riady thanked Mr Clinton for his private meeting during the inauguration and then focused on policy. He urged Mr Clinton to increase trade delegations to Asia and to appoint former businessmen as ambassadors to the region.

He also asked the President to remain engaged with China and that Indonesia be given observer status at a summit of the Group of Seven industrial nations in Tokyo.

In calling for normalisation with Vietnam, a policy Mr Clinton adopted in 1995, Mr Riady told the President that two of his company managers were in Vietnam scouting for investment opportunities.

Student unearths service records

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

AN American studying history at Cambridge University has unearthed documentary evidence about German Jews who served in Hitler's army.

Bryan Rigg, 25, has uncovered papers suggesting that thousands of soldiers with one Jewish parent or grandparent fought for the Nazis.

Many of Hitler's highest ranking officers were termed under the Nuremberg Laws as *Mischlinge* — those of mixed race. The German Army personnel office in January 1944 knew of 77 "high-ranking officers of mixed Jewish race or married to a Jew" serving in the Wehrmacht.

Hitler knew of the Jewish origin of many officers —

some of them highly decorated — because he signed documents declaring them to be of "German blood". Their futures would be looked at again after the war.

Mr Rigg, a Texan graduate of Yale University, has tracked down through their individual records hundreds of soldiers with some Jewish parentage.

However, some historians dismissed the findings and claimed they presented nothing new. Dr Anthony Glees, of Brunel University, said: "Serious historians have known really ever since the Nuremberg laws were promulgated that there were different categories of 'bastards' or 'mongrels', as the Nazis called them, who were treated differently."

But those with only one Jewish grandparent were usually allowed to continue in the army, although generally barred from entering the officer corps. Some — including former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt — slipped through the net, despite their Jewish grandfathers. Herr Schmidt became a lieutenant in the artillery.

Few Germans in wartime were immune from investigation of their ancestry. Even Reinhard Heydrich, the tall, Nordic-looking head of the Reich Security Service, was frequently accused of having a Jewish father.

Again and again he brought legal suits against anyone who claimed that he had Jewish blood.

Hitler and Heinrich Himmler, overall head of the Nazi police machine, were aware of the doubts about Heydrich's ancestry but did nothing: he

US villagers reap lottery harvest

BY QUENTIN LETTS

A DUSTBALL Texan cotton village which until last week was "dyin' on its feet" has been transformed by a lottery win into Lottsville, USA.

Forty-three of the 616 citizens of Roby, a township 120 miles west of Fort Worth, learnt that they will share \$50 million (£29 million) after their numbers came up in a pooled lottery ticket. Roby has gone from being a no-chance roadside station where even the tumbleweeds would not linger to the place with the most millionaires per capita in the entire United States.

Their *Whisky Galore*-style transformation has created a national sensation. For the first time in two years, some of Roby's hard-pressed townsfolk have been able to straighten their stonions and dine out. The local First National Bank of Sweetwater has become a scrum of flush-faced investors.

The win could not have been better timed for the many farmers who at the end of November paid \$10 apiece to join a one-off lottery cooperative. This year's weather has been the unkindest for more than 30 years, and many locals feared bankruptcy.

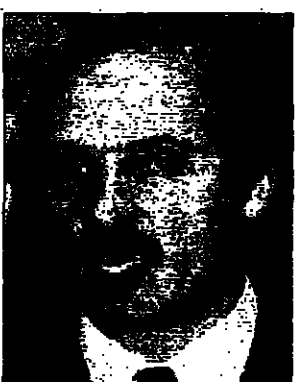
Security blueprint seeks accord on fixed troop levels across Europe

BY MICHAEL BINYON

MORE than 50 European nations agreed yesterday to a keynote disarmament agreement to take into account the collapse of communism and the end of East-West confrontation.

At the same time, they were warned by Russia of the dangers of Nato going ahead with its proposed expansion. And they voiced almost universal criticism of Belarus, warning Aleksandr Lukashenko, its autocratic President, that he was leading his country into dictatorship.

John Major joined leaders of 54 countries at a summit in Lisbon of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe in drawing up a security blueprint for the next century. One of their main proposals is that the Con-



Lukashenko: accused of becoming a dictator

tional Forces in Europe treaty, a keynote arms control agreement signed in the dying days of the Soviet Union, should be changed to take into account the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact. In future, the summit agreed, there would not be

block-to-block limits on troop levels, but new national limits for each country fixed within new geographic zones. Detailed talks will begin next month and will probably last 18 months.

Many countries at the summit, including Britain, expressed concern at the rising tension in Serbia. Carl Bildt, the Bosnia peace co-ordinator, yesterday gave a strong warning to President Milosevic of Serbia to drop a threat to crack down on the huge street protests in Belgrade. He said that the political crisis there could damage efforts to bring stability to all of former Yugoslavia.

The Foreign Office criticised the annulment of the local election results, and said it was "disturbed" by the Serbian Interior Minister's statement that the Belgrade police had been "more tolerant than required".

Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Russian Prime Minister, told the summit that Nato would create new fault lines in Europe if it went ahead with the admission of new Eastern European members. Western leaders said his tough language was expected, and America and Javier Solana, the Nato Secretary-General, insisted the alliance posed no threat to anyone.

Both Mr Major and Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, warned Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, that Israel should redouble its efforts to reach agreement on its withdrawing troops from Hebron. Mr Netanyahu is attending the summit together with other Mediterranean leaders, as well as government heads from South Korea and Japan which have insisted on being present at the summit.

Tyson scores knockout £45m in earnings

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

MIKE TYSON, the boxer who lost his heavyweight title to Evander Holyfield last month, was the highest-earning sportsman in the world last year.

Tyson's earnings for the past 12 months, including prize money and endorsement deals, were estimated at \$75 million (£45 million). This put him comfortably ahead of the number two money winner, basketball's Michael Jordan, who earned \$52.6 million. Third was the only European in the top 30 sports millionaires, the German racing driver Michael Schumacher, with \$33 million.

The top British sportsman on the list was Damon Hill, the world champion Formula One racing driver, in thirty-fourth place with \$8.2 million. The

estimates, produced by the New York-based financial magazine *Forbes*, showed a preponderance of athletes from the big three American sports — basketball, baseball and American football — and from boxing.

The new heavyweight champion, Holyfield, ranked number six in the *Forbes* list, earning \$15.5 million. Holyfield, a devout churchgoer, gives heavily to charity. Both he and Tyson can look forward to even bigger pay days if promoters can organise a rematch.

Sports stars' earnings have rocketed on account of increased competition between television companies to cover sporting events. A boy who grows up in America today with an ability to run fast, jump high or punch hard can nourish dreams of becoming within a few years one of the world's richest men. Sports stars have

learnt to groom their public appearances like rock stars. The publicity-hungry Dennis Rodman, a basketball player with the Chicago Bulls, dyes his hair outrageous colours, argues with umpires and dates beautiful women. His reward: a ninth placing with earnings of \$12.9 million.

The veteran golfer Arnold Palmer came eighth in the *Forbes* list, earning \$15.1 million — only \$100,000 of it in prize money. The rest came from his adroit sinking of sponsorship deals. In the same sport, the newcomer Tiger Woods earned an astonishing \$8.8 million, although he cannot yet be hailed as a true master of his sport. He owed his earning capacity to an engaging manner and the fact that he is one of the few black golfers on the professional circuit. No women appeared on the top 30 list.

After Christmas give yourself a break

5 NIGHTS FOR THE PRICE OF 3

£21

FROM ONLY

Per person per night dinner, bed and full traditional breakfast.

Offer available from 2 January to 28 February 1997.

ONLY IF YOU BOOK BY DECEMBER 24 1996

Ascot The Berystede	£237	North Berwick The Marine	£162
Banbury Whately Hall	£150	Oundle The Talbot	£147
Blackpool The Imperial	£162	Oxford The Randolph	£267
Chester Blossoms Hotel	£162	Padstow The Metropole	£162
Coventry The Coventry Hill*	£117	Romsey The White Horse	£147
Dartmouth Dart Marina	£162	Rye The George	£177
Dovedale Peveril of the Peak	£150	Salisbury The White Hart	£156
Forest of Dean The Speech House	£162	Sherborne The Sherborne Hotel*	£105
Hereford The Green Dragon	£147	Thetford The Bell	£141
Lavenham The Swan	£222	Walsall The Boundary*	£135
Liverpool The Gladstone*	£132	Winchester The Wessex	£144
Long Melford The Bull	£165	Worcester The Giffard*	£120
Luton The Gateway*	£111		

*not part of the Heritage brand

Terms and Conditions

• Prices are based on either the weekend or midweek rate from the Leisure Breaks 1996 second edition brochure, whichever is higher.

• Prices include 5 nights accommodation, full traditional breakfast, stable 0700 dinner & VAT at 17.5% based on 2 adults sharing a twin/double or one adult in a single room. • When a single room is not available a supplement may be charged, please ask.

• Reservations Agents for details and costs. • Bookings must be taken between 2 January and 28 February 1997. • All reservations are subject to availability with a limited number of rooms available at these promotional rates. • These offers cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer or special promotion.

This offer will not be continued. To book, see your travel agent or call

0345 40 40 40

quoting reference P107D

FORTE Heritage

Don't marry an MP - and don't wear trews

Mention secretaries in the House of Commons and most people immediately conjure up images of nubile young girls being seduced by powerful MPs among the stained glass windows and green leather corridors of the Palace.

But anyone who assumes that the House of Commons is nothing more than a dating agency hasn't met Eileen Wright, who last week celebrated her 50th anniversary as a House of Commons secretary.

Since entering the House in 1946 she has watched Sir Winston Churchill win back his majority and worked through the Suez crisis and the Profumo scandal. She adored Margaret Thatcher, will probably outlast John Major - and Tony Blair was not even born when she started her job.

As the longest-serving female aide in the Palace, Mrs Wright - 66 and steadfastly single since her divorce 30 years ago - knows more about MPs' peccadilloes than their wives.

She has worked in the Whips' Office and Downing Street put together. Broaching the subject of secretaries with her over a cup of tea in the Westminster Hall cafeteria is no easy feat. Everyone wants a word of advice from her and it took at least 15 minutes to get to our table. As she sat ramrod straight on her chair, her attention turned first to my shorthand (which obviously wasn't up to scratch), and then to my "trews" as she exalted the merits of £1 blouses and skirts from Oxford.

Finally we got onto sex, or rather, the lack of it. Most secretaries are highly professional and more concerned with current affairs than love affairs, said Mrs Wright. Between them they deal with more than 47,000 letters every day. They cure hangovers, book restaurants, conduct guided tours, act as agony aunts to constituents and understand the adrenalin and addiction of the place. One even accompanies her MP on midday jogs. But they don't have to

Eileen Wright on surviving 50 years in the House. Interview by Alice Thomson

wash their man's shirts or brush the crumbs off the sheets.

Mrs Wright has dedicated her life to looking after her charges (usually two at a time) and adores it. She did marry, briefly, in Coronation Year but it was a disaster. "I am delighted that I haven't got children. I am sure I look so young because I am not a wife. I never exercise. I have the occasional drink but never smoke and I can choose what I spend my salary on. At the moment it is redecorating my bedroom."

The doyenne of secretaries



Eileen Wright: 50 years in the House

has lived in the same street in north London with her mother since she was a child, even throughout her marriage. She has never been tempted to take an MP home to bed. "That sort of thing goes on a little, but not nearly as much as you think. As a regular churchgoer, I have never given them any encouragement. I always made sure I look business-like and never wear trews or short skirts," she says.

She was forced to go to work at 16 when her father died, and was taken on as office junior by a firm of parliamentary agents. MPs would come for dictation and filing. "In those days their salary was £1,000 a year and they had to pay for

their typewriters, two homes, postage stamps for the constituency and their secretaries out of their own pockets.

"They were a race apart in their black jackets, waxed moustaches and striped trousers. A lot had just come back from the war. You never assumed they weren't honest and upright although some weren't exactly sober and there were a few bad eggs. I am afraid to say that as the pay has gone up, the respect for MPs has gone down."

It is by chance, she says, that she has almost exclusively worked for Tories. One of her first was Sir William Teeling, MP for Brighton. "He was a terrible bully. When you are 18 you don't say, 'stop being such a silly bugger' but I finally cracked and said I would no longer work for him after the summer recess. The bizarre thing was it worked."

He loved being bossed around and we were best friends until his dying day. She has since dismissed one or two other charges, saying she would rather starve in the street than work for a charmless man.

The only woman she has ever worked for is Margaret Thatcher, as a stand-in when she was Opposition Leader. "She was wonderful and very considerate. But generally I don't think women make very good MPs. They find it hard to make their mark," she says.

Her current protégé is Patrick McLoughlin, MP for Derbyshire West. But she also looks after Matthew Parris, the *Times* columnist, who never managed to wear himself off her after he resigned as an MP.

Last week she held a vast party in the Churchill rooms to celebrate her 50 years at Westminster. Everyone, from the postroom workers to the Speaker, Betty Boothroyd, turned up, a fitting tribute to the indispensable Mrs Wright, who nevertheless was at pains to point out: "This isn't a retirement party, you know."



Julie Sowter is the second recipient of the Rees-Mogg Training Scholarship, which offers single parents the chance to train as childcare assistants

Springing the trap

A pioneering scheme offers single parents the chance of a career. Anjana Ahuja reports

To work or not to work? Many women with young children know the dilemma all too well. With spiralling childcare costs, the balance between the merits of working and staying at home can seem rather delicate.

Imagine then, how much more difficult that situation becomes for single mothers, especially those with few or no qualifications. That is why the Rees-Mogg Training Scholarships, a pioneering scheme run by the Westminster Children's Society, is so important. The scheme was set up by

and named after Lady Rees-Mogg, the patron of the charity, who secured a £52,500 gift from an anonymous donor. Her idea was to provide up to two annual scholarships, offering lone parents (both mothers and fathers) living in Westminster the chance to train as childcare assistants. Their children, who must be aged between two and four, are given free places at one of the charity's nine nurseries in the borough. And, crucially, the scholarship does not jeopardise any state benefits the parent receives.

The training leads to a national vocational qualification (NVQ). However, the scheme can be a springboard to greater things. Sarah Green, a 31-year-old single mother from Maida Vale, was one of the first two recipients when the scheme was set up a year ago. She is now studying to be a teacher at Middlesex University.

Julie Sowter, 37, who lives in Pinlco, joined the scheme at the same time as Sarah (it is a mark of the scheme's flexibility that candidates can choose how long they take to complete the course). A divorced mother of two sons, Yasmeen, 11, and Adam, 4, Julie dropped out of school at 16. A warm, matronly woman, she admits to feeling very self-conscious about not having any qualifications.

As she had done some childminding, she had been wondering whether to apply to train as a nursery nurse. Two things put her off - she would have to find a permanent nursery place for Adam, and she thought her age would work against her. Then fate stepped in.

"I dropped Adam off at the

nursery one morning when I saw a poster about these scholarships," she says. "I asked one of the assistants about it and she said it was tailor-made for me."

Julie applied and was taken on. The spin-offs have been tremendous. Not only is she training for the career she wants, but the scheme has boosted her confidence. "The written work was a worry because it was so long since I had put pen to paper. But it made me think 'Come on Julie, you are just as good as anybody else.'"

Julie laughs nervously and apologises for taking her time to find the appropriate words to express herself. But the overwhelming reaction on meeting her is astonishment - at how this simple scheme has transformed her life: "I am definitely a stronger person now. I know I can achieve more."

She has a new ambition - to run her own nursery. "There's more to life than being a mum and staying at home. It's nice for a woman to have a career if she wants one. It gives you something else to talk about. It can be good for the kids, too - Yasmeen is quite proud of the fact I work."

Julie knows it will take a while to work her way up. However, to anybody watching her in action at the Stepping Stones Nursery, looking after a mixture of Tadpoles (6-18 months) and Ducklings (18 months-2+ years), her dedication is beyond doubt.

The scheme requires that Julie spends two days a week in a nursery, learning about the practical aspects of childcare. Her progress is checked by Rosalind Millam,

who came to the Westminster Children's Society in 1992 to set the charity up as an NVQ assessment centre.

Ms Millam is delighted with the progress of Sarah and Julie, and Naomi Muigua, a mother of three who has just been taken on as the third Rees-Mogg scholar, and cannot speak too highly of the scheme.

Candidates refine their social skills, learn how to work as part of a team, and how to prepare for interviews," Ms Millam says. "They learn how to make decisions and manage their time. They are encouraged to take responsibility. It is all about raising self-esteem."

Raising self-esteem is indeed an important part of the training process, according to Lady Rees-Mogg, who says the idea came to her in the middle of the night. "Lone parents are often decried and lumped together, and they can feel enormously isolated. As a result their expectations can be very low. This scheme connects them to the community, and to the real world. It provides highly trained childminders, gets single parents off benefits and gives them back a sense of self-worth. It gives them a choice. It is quite wonderful to see the transformation it has made to people's lives."

The charity has also gone to great lengths to show that its scheme is financially viable. Each scholarship is £12,130. It estimates that a lone parent on income support with one child under five costs the Government £7,000 in benefits.

If a candidate gets a job after training as a nursery assistant on an average salary of £10,500, he or she no longer claims benefits. The charity estimates that when income tax and National Insurance contributions are taken into account, the Government is £8,500 better off in other words, the scholarship pays for itself in 18 months.

Lady Rees-Mogg hopes the scheme will be a blueprint for other organisations. "Anybody who runs a nursery could start this sort of training programme. It means raising funds but charities are used to doing that, and it is such a worthwhile cause."

"It would mean better childminders and better assistance in the nursery, which has got to be a good thing. In wider terms, every new childminder releases three women into the workplace. And the idea that all single parents want to live on benefits is a myth. Many don't but are trapped by their circumstances. This sort of scheme gives them a way out."

To this end, the charity has sent leaflets to MPs, unions and childcare organisations with a frustratingly mute response. But Lady Rees-Mogg will continue to beat the drum. Her message is simple: "Look, it can be done."

AN EXCLUSIVE COMPETITION

THE TIMES

ELEVEN £100 GIFT VOUCHERS TO BE WON

Continuing our Twelve Days of Christmas competition, *The Times* offers 11 readers the chance to win not eleven ladies dancing but a £100 gift voucher to spend at a Warner Bros Studio Store.

The Studio Stores have taken off with their movie studio back lot design, dramatic interactive displays, and delightfully looney gift ideas for all the family - from newborns to grandparents and even pets.

Gift ideas range from an apron and matching oven mitt decorated with Looney Tunes, watches displaying Sylvester and boxer shorts, sweatshirts and T-shirts printed with a



host of cartoon characters. From gardening to golf, clothing to cartoon cels, Warner Bros Studio Stores has gift ideas for everyone.

Warner Bros. Studio Stores can be found in 10 UK centres. For store locations and personal shopper information call 0171-432 7077.

Warner Bros. A Time Warner Entertainment Company, L.P. © 1996 Warner Bros. All rights reserved. Looney Tunes, characters, names and all related indicia are trade marks of Warner Bros. © 1996.

HOW TO ENTER



The 11 winners will be chosen at random from all correct entries received by midnight tonight. Normal TNL competition rules apply.

Calls cost (per minute) 45p cheap rate, 50p at other times.



CHANGING TIMES

WEEKENDER PLUS WINTER SPECIAL

8 DECEMBER 1996 - 31 JANUARY 1997
209 HOTELS - 146 DESTINATIONS

GREAT VALUE WEEKEND BREAKS
ACROSS EUROPE AND FURTHER AFIELD
NOW ALSO AVAILABLE MID-WEEK

FROM ONLY £40** PER ROOM PER NIGHT

BREAKFAST INCLUDED

*at most hotels until 28 February 1997
**available in 13 hotels

Holiday Inn

FOR RESERVATIONS AND FURTHER INFORMATION
CALL TOLL-FREE

0800 897 121

Make a song and dance with your Christmas present

Give Theatre Tokens. They can be used at over 160 theatres nationwide, including all of London's West End.

Simply buy Theatre Tokens from most branches of WH Smith, James Thin, Bookellers, through Ticketmaster 0171 344 4444, Tickets London 0171 416 6012 or

Call our 24 hour helpline

0171 240 8800



Others sent off and took fault jobs. I'm still mucking around'

Valerie Grove on why Griff Rhys Jones abandoned history for the stage and became a Lost Boy

'Others went off and took adult jobs. I'm still mucking around'

D'Arcy Tuck, the twittish upper-class schemer Griff Rhys Jones plays in the revival of Ben Travers's farce *Plunder*, first enters "with a motor-coat and carrying a cap". How apt for Rhys Jones, who so immortalised the swaggering Mr Toad in *The Wind in the Willows*. But then he comes offstage after the rehearsal carrying a bright orange anorak. Goin' roadbuildin' I ask. He gives a laugh that sounds (Arf! Arf!) exactly like Basil Brush. Later he puts on this anorak to get into my car and I see it is not a piece of stage wardrobe, but a new coat he is rather proud of, useful for driving his tractor in Suffolk.

Rhys Jones's amiable comic characters have earned him a comfortable life, involving country weekends. "You can't take the bourgeois out of the man," he says, happily. He and his wife Jo, and children Catherine and George, live above a former machine-tool factory in Clerkenwell, which now sells fingerie to men in discreet dove-grey suits; every Friday the whole family hurries off to Suffolk.

The Rhys Jones comic voice can veer between Estuary (for laddish Smith and Jones sketches) and posh. For D'Arcy Tuck he is posh. Woosterish. Having read *Plunder*, a 1928 comedy with the usual period nuances in volving class, I conclude that as with all farces, it only work in performance, so you really have to be there — at the Savoy Theatre.

Something funny happened the last time he was due to sit at the Savoy, in 1990. It was another Ben Travers play, *Thark*. After an eight-week tour, just before the London opening, the Savoy Theatre burnt down. So *Thark* became one of his great unseen triumphs. He never met Ben Travers, but his friend Craig Brown did. "Travers was 9 and told Craig he would walk up every morning and say 'Not again.' Arf! Arf!"

Rhys Jones, veteran of Ayckbourn, Feydeau, Char-

ley's *Aunt* and *An Absolute Turkey*, loves farce. "The actual mechanics of farce are part of its delight. It's a very theatrical experience, very manipulative. Did you see *See How They Run*? Its central conceit is to have eight paratroopers disguised as vicars. And a dog. Utterly brilliant. People who don't like farces," he adds, "are rather hopeless people, don't you think?"

But it can be touch and go. "Sometimes an audience gets on the train, and other times the train chuffs out of the station and by the first interval we realise we've left the audience on the platform. With *Arturo Ui*, we had fantastic audiences in previews and then on the first night I could actually hear the rustlings and shufflings.

"And a royal prince" — Edward it was — "came backstage and said 'You seemed to be enjoying yourselves more than we were.'" (More Brush-like Arfs.) "Then his aunt came later, and she greatly enjoyed it."

Behind Rhys Jones's fizzing bonhomie there seems to be no sign of closet melancholia. He lost 21lb last year, entirely without trying; luckily, being on tour meant he could get to the shops. In Newcastle he bought a new blue velvet suit.

"Now I've become an actor," he says, "perhaps I should revert to Griffith. Being called Griff is a bit matey, isn't it? But there was already a distinguished fruity-voiced actor named Griffith Jones." Although brought up in England, Griff was born in Cardiff in 1953, son of a chest consultant. He called his Welsh grandparents Nain and Taid. From Brentwood School he found himself at Cambridge "with a clutch of other grammar school boys from the M25 circuit" reading history at Emmanuel. "Nice Wren buildings, but a bit dull until Norman St John-Stevens made it more colourful, Arf! Arf!"

He abandoned history, having discovered that no longer could one be cavalier with facts, as at school, but that one was obliged to write sociologically about the three-field sys-



"Now that I've become an actor perhaps I should revert to Griffith. Being called Griff is a bit matey, isn't it?"

tem in Lincolnshire in 1520. Since he was more amused by plays, as president of the Amateur Dramatic Club, he switched to English — in the thick of the structuralism debate over Colin MacCabe. "Charming fellow, and a huge enthusiast for any barmy theory that came along."

The BBC discovered him at the Edinburgh Festival, directing a show called *Fag with a radio producer*, until John Lloyd brought him into *Not The Nine O'Clock News*. "We've all ended up in the same snakepit," Rhys Jones says, of Footlights contemporaries Clive Anderson and Rory McGrath. "So there seemed no break between university and real life. Others went off and took jobs and led a proper adult life but we've all just gone on like the Lost Boys, continuing to muck around in our mid-forties. And then you meet John Bird and think 'Well you're still mucking around as well, 20 years on. When are you going to get a proper job?'"

As a child he admired Charlie Drake, who was then half of a Fifties slapstick duo called Mick and Montmorency. Male comedy thrives in pairs; and the double act of Rhys Jones and Mel Smith, born in the early Eighties, has never gone away; they can still be heard on Radio 2. Last Saturday there was a very funny sketch about bird songs.

Playing Mr Toad at the National was, he says, the nearest thing to giving his Hamlet. I am surprised that Terry Jones did not ask him to play Toad in his film. Rhys Jones told me how the two met in Groucho's by chance. "Hel-

lo Griffith" cried Terry. "I'm making a film of *The Wind in the Willows* and I've just been talking to Alan Bennett who said you were good as Toad. But I can't find anybody to play it, so I think I'm going to do it myself." "I took it with good grace," says Griff.

Like Toad he took to motor-ing late in life. "I used to despise cars, like everyone who can't drive, and I never bothered because I could not afford a car. But when you first become a television star you walk past a shop window and think 'I could go in and buy that car. Or that car.' And I had to learn to drive because I had agreed to do a Hertz commercial, to be filmed in Arizona and Paris. They never even asked if I could drive." He got his licence the day before flying to Paris. "So my first ever drive was in this powerful car through the streets of Paris, dressed as a silly American tourist. On the Champs Elyses the lights changed to red, and the camera car scooted across so I followed, and only got half-way, blocking three lanes of traffic. I had to lock all the windows, so many people got out of their cars to attack me."

A part from the voice-overs he does for Talkback, the production company he runs with Mel Smith, he has become the presenter of the BBC2 programme *The Bookworm* on Sunday afternoons. At last — a books programme that makes dramatic television, using locations: Beje-man's Cornwall, Conan Doyle's Edinburgh, Roddy Doyle's Dublin wastelands. What astonishes him is that the director decides what an interviewee will say.

"So people say things they would not naturally say. In places they would not normally sit — all part of making truthful television, but in fact a cheat. And yet in fiction you try to make something artificial seem real."

Having taken late to motor-ing he has a penchant for classic cars. "It immediately appealed to me, the aura of tastefulness, elegance and other-worldly romanticism — like the people who own beautiful old wooden boats and wear Breton fishermen's hats." The only thing that worries him about his children's childhood is that it isn't boring enough: "I remember my childhood being full of the most excruciating boredom, punctuated by Hancock and Monty Python."

The twelve dilemmas of Christmas

The festive season brings tricky problems. Giles Coren reports

You bought your Christmas cards in Sainsbury's this year. All very well and good. But as you popped the first batch into the postbox you realised that you had sent one of these cheapo efforts to the boss. Will this do? Or should it have been a £4 handmade card-sculpture by Funky Eclectica? Then again, would it do to outcard your employer? This is only the first of the 12 dilemmas of Christmas.

church, and reuniting with old friends in the candlelight. Then again, you may be too late to get a seat, the hymn-sheet might consist entirely of experimental Post-Modern carols by young Peruvian composers, and you'll get home so late you'll never get up in time to roast the turkey.

Do you put a red ring round all the things in *Radio Times* you want to watch over the festive period? Or is that a bit sad?

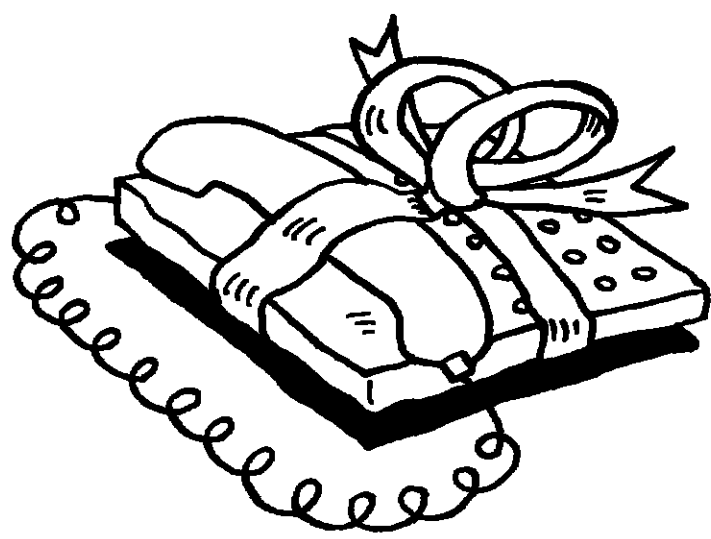
Do you admit there is no Father Christmas? Little Geoffrey hears the rumours at school and pops the big question on Christmas Eve. Do you perpetuate the great Nordic myth of the unseen bearded benefactor, thus making Geoffrey one of the mugs who stands up for elves and tooth-fairies well into his teens? Or do you do the responsible thing, and tell him where babies come from at the same time?

Do you pretend you believe in Father Christmas? Mum and Dad seem to get so much pleasure from the pretence, making you leave out mince pies and a carrot for Rudolph, and all that. Do you let them know you know? Or pretend to be asleep when the old man totters in, and then say "Ooh, look what Santa brought" in the morning?

What do you say to non-Christians? How do you avoid that red-faced moment when you say "Merry Christmas", even as you realise that he couldn't care less how lowly the catflashed was, nor how bleak the midwinter. You try to make amends with "Happy new year," remembering too late that in most cases it isn't that either.

Do you open the presents before or after lunch? Or even on Christmas Eve, like the French? And is it possible to change your family tradition once it is fixed?

Do you give presents in the office? No.



THIS CHRISTMAS,
ALL MERCURY NATIONAL CALLS
COST JUST 1P PER MINUTE.
'TIS THE REASON TO BE JOLLY.

'Tra la la la la.' That's right. On Christmas Day and New Year's Day, all long distance calls to anywhere in the UK will cost just 1p per minute. And all international calls will be charged at our economy rate.

Merry Christmas to all our Mercury customers. If you're not with Mercury, but our Christmas offer strikes a chord with you, call us now on Freecall 0500 200 950. Then you can sing the praises of 1p per minute calls too.

A CABLE & WIRELESS COMPANY

MERCURY COMMUNICATIONS

All prices include VAT at 17.5%. All calls have a 35p connection charge. Offer excludes FutureCall and Business Customers. Joining Mercury SmartCall or 1st Call is subject to status and Mercury's standard terms and conditions.

RTM 02

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

A peaceful Christmas recall our friends.
May the light of your compassion
burn brightly with joy in your homes.

SISTER SUPERIOR

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE
MADE STREET, HACCINE, LONDON SE 4 8SA
Reg. Charity No 231323

DuckCity™ by Am Snow

As a basketball pro?

It rocks!

Just 1 of 6 games in DuckCity™

visit me at
www.duckcity.com

PC/MAC CD-ROM/RAP £14.99/OUT NOW

visit me at
www.duckcity.com

BMG interactive

The strong pound is bad for Britain

A hard currency is not a virility symbol, says Anatole Kaletsky

In the coming weeks you are likely to hear more and more from Britain's businessmen and economists about the "sterling problem" or even, depending on the excitability of the commentator, about the "sterling crisis". These comments will seem odd, since they will appear on the business pages alongside reports that investors around the world are snapping up sterling assets and that the pound is rising to its highest level for years. Yesterday's news afforded an early example of this juxtaposition: just as sterling hit DM2.60, the closely followed Purchasing Managers' Index warned of a slow-down in manufacturing and a fall in export demand.

To economists there is nothing surprising about the business community's fear of a hard currency: a strong pound makes British goods more expensive for foreigners and imports cheaper for Britons. As a result, British consumers buy more imports, while British manufacturers find it harder to sell abroad. Eventually the trade deficit expands, British companies lay off workers, unemployment rises and interest rates decline, causing the pound to fall. But this process can take years, and meanwhile jobs are lost, businesses bankrupted and factories closed.

In the two decades since the world began to live with floating currencies, this process has become clear to economists and businessmen. In the last few years it has been grasped even by politicians, which is why a weaker currency has been adopted as a policy objective by almost every government in the world. America, Japan, Switzerland, France, Italy, Canada and most recently Germany have taken deliberate steps to weaken their currencies. Devising such a soft-currency policy for Britain ought to be the Treasury's top priority, yet to most people in Britain the idea of deliberately undermining sterling seems unpatriotic and absurd.

The British have learnt to envy the Germans, Swiss and Japanese, whose hard currencies have become symbols of economic virility — and to feel ashamed of their own limp and shrivelled pounds. What Britons do not realise is that these hard currency countries have been trying desperately to make their currencies "soft". Japan and Switzerland are doing this by keeping interest rates at ridiculously low levels (at 0.3 per cent and 0.8 per cent respectively). Germany by merging the mark into the new euro, which despite protestations to the contrary is bound to be a "soft" currency with more in common with the franc and the lira than the mark.

So why do British politicians find it so difficult to say openly that they want the pound to weaken? And, why for that matter, do the Germans bother to deny that they want a soft euro?

There are three possible answers: the economic, the logical and the semantic-metaphorical. Economics shows

that a strong currency has benefits as well as costs. It can combat inflation and increase a nation's standard of living relative to its neighbours. But these benefits outweigh the costs only in a period of general inflation (such as the 1970s and early 1980s, when Germany and Japan pursued strong currency policies to excellent effect) or when a nation is at or near full employment (which is why America is the one major country today where the Government quite sensibly wants a strong currency). For Britain, with unemployment still at two million and concentrated among blue-collar workers, there is certainly no economic benefit from a strong pound.

The logical objection to a weak currency policy is that if some currencies are falling, others must be rising. It is impossible for all of them to be weak. What this objection ignores is Keynes's classic distinction between the intentions of economic policy and the outcome. It is certainly true that not all nations can have weak currencies at once. But this need not prevent them all pursuing weak currency policies, which would accelerate monetary growth and increase world demand. At a time of global inflation, such policies would be dangerous. When the main economic problems are deflation and mass unemployment, weak currency policies around the world are exactly what is required.

This leaves the purely semantic objection. Economic policy, like European diplomacy, is all too often dominated by metaphors as a substitute for logic. Among politicians especially, the instinctive, subliminal link between words like strong, hard and good is almost impossible to overcome.

The German Government and the Bundesbank are still in the habit of declaring that "a hard Deutschemark is a good Deutschemark". And even though the German policymakers clearly no longer mean what they say, it somehow seems effete to point out that their slogan is utter nonsense.

People seem to take it for granted that something described as hard or strong must be healthy and virile. Yet all that is strong is not good: sailors avoid strong gales. The word "hard" has even more negative connotations. A hard punch on the nose is more unpleasant than a soft one, and hard drugs should definitely be shunned.

As for the psycho-sexual associations of hardness, try the following thought-experiment when you next hear a central banker boasting about a "hard" currency. Do not allow your mind to be steered towards a phallic symbol: think instead of another biological example of hardness — a malignant tumour. That is how Swiss, Japanese and German exporters have learnt to feel about their hard francs, yen, and marks.



As our children see us

Suing for failure to pass exams will not give pupils a proper education

What a relief it was, after one of those curious dreams of being young again, to wake up in the morning and find myself 46. It must be very worrying to be a child these days. You must sense that you are generally perceived to be either a pathetic victim or a loose cannon: if a boy, you are expected to turn violent any minute; if a girl, to get pregnant and live off the State.

Yet at the same time you are envied: your insignia of silly caps worn backwards, dishevelment and surly manners are mimicked by supermodels and TV presenters years past puberty. Your toys are pinched by executives. All around you is a sea of self-indulgent adults, every one of whom is struggling to get in touch with the inner child, while barely noticing you, the outer one. On top of all this, every time you open a newspaper in an attempt to understand the adult world you are confronted with still more evidence: the most rapidly growing social group are voluntarily childless couples, newspaper columnists wail wistfully about the frightful trouble you cause them, and fertility campaigners emphasise the adult's "right" to have sweet little babies. Bundles of joy, moppets, not great big worrisome children like you.

Leave aside, for the moment, this week's somewhat sweeping announcement from a gang of psychologists that 40 per cent of children suffer mental health problems ("however transient"). That, while perhaps justified as a shock tactic to improve necessary child psychiatry services, will have the side-effect of putting the wind up the large group who spend their first eighteen years convinced they are going mad (I certainly did). Far more sinister even than that, for this national 12-year-old reading the morning paper, is the latest news from the wonderful world of compensation lawyers. This could be the final straw.

Jack Rabinowitz, the solicitor who made history by getting compensation for a boy whose school failed to stop him being bullied, is now taking on two cases of 17-year-olds suing their old school — an institution panned by the inspectors — for failing to get them the GCSEs they "deserved". Their suit is for the cost of retaking exams and for loss of earnings. For some unaccountable reason Mr Rabinowitz seems to have forgotten to add £30,000 for the

trauma, humiliation and mental distress caused by Certificate Deficit Syndrome.

Shock, horror. Teachers' unions talk of madness and of floodgates; inspectors are dismayed at such a use being made of their strictures; schools are warned to take out insurance. If the case succeeds, the Government is said to be prepared to act quickly to prevent a flood of others. Perhaps it should encourage schools to sue parents in return for not supervising homework or enforcing bedtime, and so making children so strappy that they spoil every-body else's chances (Oh no, silly me! Of course that would never do. The parents would not have the money, whereas the public purse is deemed to be bottomless).

I have to admit that I agree with the general outrage at this larky new idea of failed ex-pupils suing education authorities. But then I also happen to take the extreme and grumpy view that it is wrong, tasteless and decadent for individuals to sue hospitals and emergency services for trauma and distress or even honest mistakes. Two wrongs do not make a right: impoverishing any non-profit-making public service simply to assert your own woundedness is not attractive.

In the case of schools, though, the really alarming thing is the message it delivers to this queuing 12-year-old reading the morning paper. Far from empowering the child, actions like these reinforce a dreadful passivity. These claimants are asking educational psychologists to test them and prove that they "deserved" good exam results, which should have been duly "delivered". As in production-line bakery, the school should have poured the correct mixture into the waiting vessel, stirred it to the regulation number of times, and thus ensured that the cake would rise to a specified height. It must be very disheartening, at 12 years old, to be encouraged to think of yourself as an empty cake-tin.

Besides, what about parents? Parents lay the foundations of your life. Children know this, just as they know that they are programmed to grow away into independence: they make the connection very early. My daughter once rounded on me angrily at four years old when some simple task proved beyond her: "It's your fault, you didn't grow me up properly!" At least as many children are let down by their mothers and fathers as by schools: emotionally, socially, educationally.

Where, I should like to know, were the parents of these two current litigants for five years while their offspring were learning to read? Easy enough to say that the school reports looked fine and that it is impossible for lay people to understand modern curricula, new maths and so on. But come off it, one of these pupils had no passes at all. If, on present standards, a child of normal intelligence can't even get one low-grade GCSE, that is a very, very ignorant child indeed. Any parent bright enough to employ a lawyer should have spotted that degree of rot years ago.

So should the pupil. This, for our baffled child reader, is the really insulting aspect of the story. If a school is failing, some at least of the children, backed by parents, should complain early and loud. It can be done. Just as we all know failed children from good schools, we meet others who have wrestled fine results out of chaotic, lax, demoralised ones. I know one teenager now at university who knew perfectly well that her school was weak. She spent great energy on simple things like checking the curriculum for her exam board and ensuring they were teaching her the wrong one. Another girl bought her own French-to-French dictionary, an essential for high quality A-level work, because the school library had none. At my own convent sixth-form, science was so ludicrously inadequate that three girls in the set staged a revolution, and forced through

their demand to share classes at the boys' grammar school down the road. All made it into scientific professions, but not by being cake-fans, waiting to be filled.

Of course adults owe children care, of course not every child can be so aggressively active. But schoolchildren, especially secondary children, are the first judges of schools. This is not nearly enough recognised or respected. I speak as an eavesdropper who has, for ten years now, ferried carloads of children to and from a wide variety of schools in both sectors.

They exchange cogent and witty comments on their teachers' ability. "He's past his peak, he ought to be running a leisure centre like the Brittas Empire." Then he could read his fitness magazines all day without having to give us copying to do in class time. "Miss X is a faker. I read two chapters ahead in the history book 'cos I was interested, and asked her about it and she hadn't got that far yet." "His worksheets have got 1964 in the corner. He hands them out, then listens to the cricket on headphones and says he's stressed." Oh yes, pupils know a dull, doughy teacher when they see one, and one of these uncommitted lazy ones too. When they report these dead batteries to their parents they should not meet resigned shrugs or disbelief: the parents ought to turn off the telly, listen, believe them, gather corroborative evidence, compare notes with other parents, and present their case to the head.

There is a false perception, caused by the predominance among journalists of nifty north London parents, that this already happens. Because there are more parents than teachers to offend in print, and because education commentators themselves are eager-beavers, a legend has grown up that tens of thousands of "good" mothers and fathers work assiduously to support their children's schools and keep them up to scratch.

Teachers tell a different story: even to half-fill a parents' evening or meeting is uphill work. The vast majority of secondary parents in particular are invisible and silent, except when they are marginally aggressive. Perhaps they are scared: they feel that if they pay taxes it is up to public institutions to mould and equip their children while they watch *Cracker* and plan holidays. They are a disgrace. But there's no money in suing them, is there?

Mixing politics and drink

Daniel Johnson
on alcohol, the last taboo in public life

Sir Nicholas Scott may not have salvaged his career by confessing to Jim Naughtie on the *Today* programme yesterday that until two years ago he had been drinking "too heavily", and that he had promised his wife he would cut down. To be sure, the embattled MP for Kensington and Chelsea left his *mea culpa* far too late — he was a Northern Ireland Minister when his drinking got out of control — and in another interview he sought to play down his earlier admission with the implausible gloss: "I didn't have a drink problem." Still, it is refreshing to hear one of the last taboos in public life broken: do not admit to having been drunk, on or off duty, unless forced to do so, and never so much as hint at ever having been an alcoholic.

The rules of the House of Commons actually reinforce this taboo by outlawing any reference to a Member's drinking. During a late-night sizzle in 1983, Clare Short accused the then junior Employment Minister Ian Clark of being at the dispatch box "in this condition". Matthew Parris, in his *Great Parliamentary Scandals*, comments: "I was there. He was drunk. But the Deputy Speaker reprimanded Short."

The club-like atmosphere of the Commons enables parties to conceal the presence of alcoholics in their ranks. In the past, lobby journalists who along to the club too, have kept quiet unless a politician makes a public exhibition of himself, but competitive pressures for disclosure are growing. Silence may be compassionate: no useful purpose would have been served by publicising the fact that the late Maurice Macmillan, for example, had been "dried out" before he became a minister.

The unmentionability of the demon was memorably highlighted in 1957 when the Labour politicians Richard Crossman and Nye Bevan, with the party's general secretary, Morgan Phillips, successfully sued *The Spectator* for having accused them of being outrageously drunk during a socialist gathering in Venice. Years later Crossman's *Diaries* revealed that Phillips at least had been "dead drunk" most of the conference; all three had perjured themselves rather than admit to the fairly venial sin of being drunk on a jaunt abroad.

Wilson Governments were the boast of recent times. It was George Brown, Wilson's deputy in the 1960s, who gave rise to the euphemism "dried and emotional", used by the BBC after Brown appeared on television in 1963 to comment on President Kennedy's assassination. Though by no means an alcoholic, Tony Crosland, Labour's chief post-war theoretician, also drank more than was good for him. That was not held against him, though it may have contributed to his death at 58 while Foreign Secretary; but his public school profligacy was accentuated in his cup, and his preference for wine, not beer, was resented. It is no accident, either, that so much was made of Roy Jenkins's fondness for fine wine when he and other right-wingers broke with Labour to form the SDP: the aim was to identify the new party in Labour voters' minds with the "dread-drinking classes".

Politicians of all parties can in theory now drink anything and everything — but in practice Islington Man drinks mineral water. John Major may endorse warm beer in his speeches, but he takes care not to be seen quaffing it too often. Public sobriety is more of a political imperative than it was a century ago, perhaps the only nonconformist teetotal vote could swing elections. Why? Teetotalism has made drunkenness the Commons harder to conceal: the late Horace King would not have survived as Speaker today. Drinking habits have also changed. The post-war generation preferred spirits to wine, if he drinks at all, is unlikely to ask for hard liquor. Women still drink less, and their growing presence in politics inhibits the habits of conviviality.

Alcohol is now seen as incompatible with the demands of office. But those demands also cause leaders to turn to drink. Harold Wilson's press spokesman, Joe Haines, now says that during his last Government, Wilson held no longer face Prime Minister's Questions without several large drinks, rendering him incapable of serious work for the afternoon. It is a time of war that statesmen bear the heaviest responsibility, and many turn to the bottle to relieve the tension. Churchill's prodigious consumption of alcohol enabled Dr Goebbels to caricature him as a hopeless drunk. In fact, Churchill's performance slips scarcely to have been affected by his drinking, though his example was disastrous for his son Randolph. The heavy drinking of another wartime Prime Minister, Asquith ("puffy") may have contributed to his overthrow by Lloyd George, but it was more a symptom than a cause of his inadequacy.

Bismarck derived on a daily minimum of a little of Meck & Chaudron champagne. But Pitt the Younger drank himself to an early grave on two or three bottles of port a day. For leaders of the calibre, it is hard to say whether alcohol is a blessing or a curse. But for ordinary mortals, there is little doubt.

Pope hope

GREGORIAN CHANT may be rocking the classical charts, but contemporary tunes come top at the Vatican.

The Pope — who is something of a Motown man — has signed up Dionne Warwick, sequinned singer and mother of soul, to perform at his Christmas party.

She will be joined on stage by Natalie Cole and the Harlem Singers at the event in Pope Paul VI's concert hall, a venue more used to Palestrina than pop. The Pope is expected to take a front-row seat for the concert.

This is not the pontiff's first flirtation with soul music. A wearer of Doc Marten's boots, he is particularly fond of Aretha Franklin, who has attended the Vatican at his request and has sung for him in private.

The excitement is palpable among the Monsignori. "Dionne Warwick is a tremendous singer and a lovely person; she sings religious songs," said one Vatican insider.

The concert takes place just days before Christmas. His Holiness is already excitedly humming such classics as *Walk on By*, *Don't Make Me Over* and *Anyone Who*

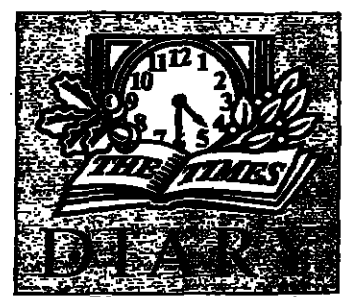
Had a Heart while he potters about the Vatican.

Old and tired

JOHN MAJOR has been stealing Michael Heseltine's best lines. At the Tory women's conference last week he hit the mark with his blue-ribbon audience when he discussed the Leader of the Opposition's apparent two-facedness. "Which twin is the real Tony?" he asked, to



Dionne sultry.



thunderous applause. This was a reference to a series of advertisements from the early 1950s for Toni hair products. Two women sit next to each other beneath the caption "Which twin has the Toni... and which has the expensive perm?"

Rewind to last year's Tory conference and we find Michael Heseltine asking his elderly audience: "Which twin is the Toni?" Major may care to remember the case of Bruce Babbitt, who ran for the Democratic nomination for the presidency only to drop out when it was discovered he had been borrowing heavily from the speeches of Neil Kinnock.

Way out

AS THE Baroness James (A.K.A. P.D. James) and the literary power couple Harold Pinter and Lady

Antonia Fraser shuffled out of the labyrinthine basement of the new British Library yesterday after supervising the arrival of the first books, one member of the party seemed a little lost. "Now, which is the best way out?" asked the distinguished-looking gentleman, peering at a bewildering number of doors. Fortunately a member of staff leapt over to guide the architect Colin St John Wilson out of his own building.

Latest to attack the BBC for biased reporting are the Ulster



"I'm using my lottery cheque to find a good lawyer to sue the school"

Unionists. The Ulster Information Office (president, David Trimble; director, David Burnside) has written to the BBC Chairman and the Editor of Radio 4's *Today*, claiming that *Sian Cain* receives too much airtime. "It is intolerable," thunders Burnside.

Inane, in vain

MY COLLEAGUE Matthew Parris has been upbraided by Neil Kinnock, the windy Welshman, former Labour leader and Euro-Commissioner. The contention concerns Kinnock's teenage outburst at Labour's appalling 1992 election rally in Sheffield.

Parris wrote in his book *Read My Lips: A Treasury of the Things Politicians Wish They Hadn't Said* that Kinnock shouted "We're alright! We're alright!" and called it misplaced triumphalism.

Kinnock has written to him: "The words I used were 'Well alright! Well alright!' They are meaningless — in the true sense inane... I write only to put the reality on record." It didn't sound like it, but well, all right.

Close shave

AS LORD BROCKET miserably sits out his time in Littlehey prison,



The Brocket of old

Cambridgeshire, where he was injured by a scratcher with a razor last week, there is talk of proposals for a film about his predicament.

Henry Cole, the Old Etonian who turned Anna Pasternak's saccharine book *Princess in Love* into a movie and who interviewed James Hewitt about his affair with Diana, is said to have approached Brocket for approval. Yesterday, Cole would not discuss the matter, but I understand he has written to Brocket at Littlehey and is awaiting a reply.

P.H.S.



ALL AT SEA

Time for Britain to help push out the UN lifeboat

The rusty old liner lost its bearings months ago. In winter seas, it is shipping more and more water. They are playing cards in the engine-room because no orders are coming down from the bridge. Both crew and passengers know that the captain became fatally incapacitated months ago. They are waiting for one of his relatives to volunteer for his job, although there is no logical reason for keeping it in a family not noted for outstanding seamanship. The relatives have anyway been dithering, arguing that the ship's doctor must first pronounce the captain dead. Stand by for the Lutine bell.

Thus is the United Nations preparing to enter the 21st century. Fully five months ago, the United States announced that it would veto the bid by Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN's 74-year-old Secretary-General, for a second five-year term. It was the right decision, for a host of reasons other than the Secretary-General's advanced age — or even his disastrous mishandling of the UN mission in Bosnia. The UN badly needs a more persuasive voice and more dynamic and flexible management. Mr Boutros Ghali's earlier insistence that he would serve only one term made this the ideal time to break with the damaging convention that re-election is the incumbent's unwritten right.

But even if America had made the wrong decision, Mr Boutros Ghali was politically dead from June onwards. However much this irritates other states, the UN's authority rests on the readiness of its most powerful member to work with and through it. Washington's power to change things is however limited to the veto; resentment would kill the chances of any candidate it backed. The only sensible response for others was to turn the US veto to good use by finding an outstanding successor; but UN politics are fuelled by pique, not sense. Futility and foolishly determined to "punish" Washington for exercising its right of choice in the matter, every other member of the Security Council, discreditably including Britain, voted for Mr Boutros Ghali in the first round last month. Worse still, they agreed that if he were to

withdraw, Africa must not thereby be deprived of its "right" to a full ten years at the UN helm. With this irresponsible decision to put political correctness before political effectiveness, Washington has so far publicly agreed. The entirely predictable result has been further damaging delay while the utterly disorganised Organisation of African Unity — which Mr Boutros Ghali, whose spiritual home is Paris rather than Africa, had persuaded that the American veto was an insult to the continent — wrestled with its conscience. Yesterday, the OAU finally allowed some names, none of them inspiring, to go forward to the Security Council. The timing is not fortuitous; it has been heavily lobbied by France, which is out to slip one of its francophone African clients into the post; and tomorrow in Ouagadougou, France just happens to be holding a high-profile summit with African leaders.

The curtain should be brought down on this farce before it damages the UN beyond repair. The deadline is a mere fortnight away; the General Assembly, which must endorse the Security Council's nomination, is due to shut up shop for the year on December 17. Britain, a permanent member of the Security Council, insists that it has no preference and is happy to sit the game out hoping that some "viable" African candidate — faint ambition indeed — will be found. This attitude is incompatible with Britain's insistence that it is serious about UN reform. Britain should be exploiting its Commonwealth links to sound out Asian capitals on a step that could be presented as a genuflection to geographical "fairness" but would in practice give the UN the strong management it needs. In the rotation of Buggins' turn, Asia follows Africa; and in Sadako Ogata, the highly respected and experienced Japanese UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Asia has a woman who could give the UN the best leadership it has ever had. It may be too late to launch the lifeboat; the attempt may fail; but it is worth a try. If even Britain cannot take this contest seriously, the UN is in miserable shape indeed.

CUNNINGHAM'S NUMBER

Labour has sensible ideas to improve the Lottery

The National Lottery should have been, and still could be, an unalloyed political success. The ingredients are there: the chance for punters to win money, and the distribution of huge sums to good causes. Within the next few years, there will be few in the country whose life will not have in some way been enhanced by the Lottery. Yet, despite some desperate defensive advertising, the institution lacks the popularity that it would like.

Some people disapprove of gambling; their doubts will never be assuaged. But other forms of disquiet can be addressed, and many of them are dealt with in Labour's new report on the future of the Lottery, launched yesterday by Jack Cunningham, Shadow National Heritage Secretary.

Two structural problems have added to popular anxiety about the lottery: its operator and its regulation. Camelot is perceived to be making too much money. Every penny that goes into Camelot shareholders' pockets is money that could otherwise have been distributed to good causes. The willingness of Richard Branson to run the lottery without taking a profit has not been forgotten: the type of profit incentive for which Camelot bid was never necessary. Labour rightly wants to see an efficient, not-for-profit organisation running the lottery.

Dr Cunningham also recognises the potential conflicts of interest inherent in the role of the regulator. Of the Director-General should not both choose the operator and regulate its activities. Nor should he be responsible both for maximising Camelot's profits and representing the consumer interest. These conflicts have already thrown up enough disquieting behaviour to warrant the removal from office of the current Director-General, Peter Davis. Labour suggests that the roles be separated.

Another objection to the lottery is that it is a tax on the poor to pay for the playthings of the rich. This charge has contained a grain of truth. With so many playing the Lottery, many more should reap its rewards. A way of achieving this end is Labour's idea of "Community Chests", allowing sums to be distributed locally for locally determined priorities. Another would be to favour those projects with the highest element of volunteering; the commitment of people's time and energy would demonstrate local support.

Then there is the question of what should be done after the turn of the century with the fifth of the money that now goes to the Millennium Commission. The Government's solution of redistributing the money to the other four good causes shows a lack of imagination. Labour has two good proposals. One is to mark children and young people as permanent beneficiaries. The other interesting idea is to fund projects that may slip through the net of the Exchequer but which can eventually be self-financing. Insulating old people's houses is a "spend to save" measure that pays off in the long run. Training teachers to use information technology bridges a generational gap that will no longer exist when this cohort of schoolchildren become teachers. A "National Endowment for the Arts, Humanities and Science" will produce an income stream to encourage young talent for centuries to come.

This document should be an example to some of Dr Cunningham's colleagues. The thinking is original and mostly sensible. It is pragmatic and consumer-led rather than ideological and friendly to trade unions. In a small part of the Shadow portfolio, Dr Cunningham has shown that Labour can be different from the Conservatives without making itself unelectable in the process.

AND NOW FOR REAL GAMBLERS

The tables of Beirut signal that business is back to normal

The horses are prancing, the girls are dancing and the lights sparkle as brightly as the glitter of the sheikhs' jewelled fingers. After 20 years of drear darkness, the big gamblers are back at their tables. The Casino du Liban, the fastest and most spectacular pleasure dome east (or west) of Las Vegas, is back in business. Lebanon, once the playground of the rich, the oil-rich and the nouveau riches has found its soul again. After two decades of banditry and destruction, the resourceful Switzerland of the Middle East is again doing what comes naturally: playing host to playboys.

In Monte Carlo, the famed gaming rooms are ruled with the iron restraint of etiquette, snobbery and the merest hint of a croupier's disapproving eyebrow. In Vegas the clunks of a one-armed bandit army disturb the velvet peace. It was always in the Casino du Liban where French chic met Middle Eastern wealth in shameless, hedonistic exhibitionism. The rules who remember Lebanon's sinful Sixties become misty-eyed when they recall the stows of yesterday. *La Parisienne*. Hello and *Mais Oui*.

The casino entertainment was intended to dwarf anything that America could produce. Satellites descended from the top of the hall; chandeliers were filled with dancers; a real

train roared across the stage; there were elephants, waterfalls and dolphins. Inaugurated on January 1, 1958, the casino was the natural home of Charles Aznavour, Johnny Halliday, Dalida and their friends.

It all had to end, when the bubble of Lebanon's festering society broke in 1976. The casino tried to carry on, insouciant of the encroaching violence, bloodshed and religious division. But the smart set drifted away, and only the determined Lebanese, manically grinning while their hands fingered the guns beneath their dinner jackets, tried to keep the fun going.

The war is now over, however. The five-star hotels are being rebuilt, the banks are again swallowing up petrodollar deposits and Beirut is one vast reconstruction site. There is a nostalgia for the old days of decadence which an enterprising Briton, the casino's new vice-president, has been quick to fill. A £30-million facelift, a brand new set of gaming rooms where the minimum bet is £1,000, and the helpful intervention of a Government always solicitous of the needs of the rich, have helped the phoenix arise. A few miles away, Hezbollah may be planning new guerrilla attacks. But Lebanese eyes will be dazzled by the glitz of the new show. Truly, the country is back to normal.

Russia's threat to Nato expansion

From Dr Robert McGeehan

Sir, The threat by Igor Rodionov, the Russian Defence Minister, that Russian nuclear weapons could be targeted on Central and Eastern European states if they join Nato (report, November 29) is grimly reminiscent of the crude attempts by the Soviet Union in the early 1980s to similarly intimidate the members of the Atlantic alliance that had agreed to receive new American intermediate-range nuclear missiles.

Such coercive tactics did not succeed then and should not influence current deliberations on Nato enlargement, but they are a timely reminder that the former superpower to the east remains the only real potential aggressor in Europe, should its present efforts to move towards democracy collapse.

General Rodionov's further threats to renounce Russian commitments under the START treaty and create its own "defensive military alliance" are additional reminders that the grizzly bear has a long way to go before it becomes a teddy.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT MCGEEHAN
(Assistant Director,
Institute of United States Studies,
University of London,
Senate House, Malet Street, WC1,
November 29.

From Mr Frank Allain

Sir, Russian Defence Minister Rodionov says that his country could re-target nuclear weapons towards Eastern European countries if they join Nato. He thereby confirms the warning given by Mr Gorbachev to Western leaders during his recent London visit that, if Nato expands into Eastern Europe, Russia would be tempted to tear up its disarmament treaties with them.

This is a very real danger as Russia sees Nato military forces approaching her frontiers. British troops were this autumn sent from Germany for training on the ground in Lvov previously used by Russian tanks.

It is planned to add Eastern and Central European states to the existing Nato countries. When that takes place it could mean their accepting Nato tanks, artillery and aircraft and even nuclear weapons on their territories. It has been denied by American spokesmen that nuclear bombs will be sent, but it is significant that Poland and the Czech Republic seem ready to accept the possibility of nuclear weapons being based on their soil. It is surprising that the Russian Government is alarmed, although it has not so clearly stated this hitherto.

Mr Gorbachev is entitled to be listened to. It was his unilateral moves beginning in 1987 which led to the ending of the Cold War and the arms race. It would be tragic if they returned.

Yours sincerely,
FRANK ALLAIN
(Labour MP for East Salford, 1955-83),
11 Eastleigh Road, Manchester,
December 2.

Social security changes

From the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Social Security

Sir, As the minister responsible for the Social Security appeal system I was surprised to read Mr Alan Howarth's letter (November 26) on the changes I introduced recently. These are modest, practical measures to improve the efficiency of the Independent Tribunal Service and will not in any way reduce appellants' rights.

Contrary to the assertions in Mr Howarth's letter these changes did not involve any "high-handed" behaviour or mockery of Parliamentary procedure.

The amendments to the appeal regulations to which Mr Howarth refers were outlined in the recent Green Paper, *Improving Decision Making and Appeals*, where it was made clear, at paragraph 1.7, that it was planned to introduce them this autumn, subject to the usual consultation with the Council on Tribunals. The aim was to improve the current service while consultation was under way on more radical longer-term options.

These regulation changes followed the well-established procedure for negative resolution in Parliament — and the same will apply to the regulations changing the way earnings are calculated, to which Mr Howarth also referred. This means that a debate is not required before the regulations come into force, as Mr Howarth well knows.

Negative resolution regulations may be debated in Parliament if members seek a debate and time can be found for one. Debates on the appeal system changes took place in the Commons Standing Committee on November 7, during which Mr Howarth spoke, as well as in the Lords on November 19. If it is the will of Parliament, the other changes will be debated in due course.

Yours etc,
ROGER EVANS,
Department of Social Security,
Richmond House, 79 Whitehall, SW1,
November 27.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Views on a Budget that 'discriminates against families'

From Mr James Sandilands

Sir, One wonders if members of the Cabinet talk to one another. In the same week that the Chancellor announces that the level of financial support to London Transport is to be cut (Budget report, November 27) — a move hardly designed to discourage the trend for families to move out of the city — his colleague, the Environment Secretary, told the Commons (report, November 26) that the Government is raising its targets for the number of homes it hopes to see built on inner-city land.

The latter announcement was given in the context of a forecast that large swathes of southern and central England will be subjected to urban sprawl. This speed of this irreversible process can surely be slowed by more — not less — investment in London's infrastructure.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES SANDILANDS,
58 Donerale Street, SW6,
November 28.

From Mr Tony M. Bailey-Smith

Sir, I live in a rural area with no bus or rail link to my place of work: a journey of 18 miles which I am compelled to take by car.

How can I, in the Chancellor's words, "take steps to cut fuel consumption" and implement the encouragement to "fuel efficiency"?

Yours,
TONY M. BAILEY-SMITH,
Brook House,
Aldham, nr Ipswich, Suffolk.

From Mr M. T. Gardner

Sir, The tables showing the amount of income tax paid by families at different income levels in your Budget supplement (November 27; letters, November 29) showed starkly how the British tax system discriminates against the traditional family unit of a working husband supporting a non-working wife and children.

Saving St Pancras

From Lord Amptill

Sir, Professor Michael Hunter (letter, November 29) may well be right about the lack of public consultation about the removal of the Stone of Scorne from Westminster Abbey, but his strictures that there has been insufficient attention to St Pancras are seriously adrift.

The Channel Tunnel Rail Link Bill received consideration in the Commons over 17 months with no less than 17 sittings of the select committee, a record number. It was in the Lords for six months and their select committee sat in public for 31 full days and in private or visiting sites for many more.

Both the professor and Giles Worsley (article, November 21) are possibly unaware of the procedure in a hybrid Bill of this complexity whereby by many chunks of legislation are displaced and then replaced with contractually binding undertakings and agreements to give the protection

required. In the case of the Channel Tunnel rail link these amount to around 600, including a heritage deed between the promoters, English Heritage and Camden, the local planning authority. The draft deed was published on October 15 in the Lords select committee's special report, which is widely available.

The future of St Pancras, both William Barlow's train shed and Sir Gilbert Scott's chambers, was a matter of the deepest concern to the select committee and the House. The select committee is in no doubt whatsoever that it will be preserved and enhanced in the plans which are being developed by London and Continental Railways in conjunction with Norman Foster Associates.

Yours faithfully,
AMPTILL
(Chairman, Select Committee on the Channel Tunnel Rail Link Bill),
House of Lords,
November 29.

From the Chairman, Association of Metropolitan Authorities

Sir, May I take up two points in your otherwise excellent coverage of the local authority financial settlement (report, November 28). I did not claim

that "the pursuit for efficiency was destroying services" — on the contrary I made it clear that the local authority associations' assessment of spending needs was predicated on achieving a further £400 million efficiency savings next year. I did however make it clear that efficiency savings could not bridge the gap between the Government's spending plans for local authorities and the cost of maintaining services and meeting new requirements.

Further, the Government is wrong in saying there is a "2.5 per cent settlement". That figure includes transfer of responsibilities and funding to go with it in respect of a further tranche of community care. Taking that out makes for an increase in spending plans of 1.8 per cent on the Government's own calculations. But even that is not being funded by the Government. Government grant on all local authority services, including the police, will go up by only 0.6 per cent, or, excluding the police, by 0.2 per cent. It is this which leads to the projected average of 6 per cent council tax increase.

Yours sincerely,
JEREMY BEECHAM,
Chairman,
Association of Metropolitan Authorities,
35 Great Smith Street, SW1,
November 28.

Kawasaki disease

From Dr Jack Gillon

Sir, If aspirin were the only treatment available for the very sick children Dr Thomas Stuttford describes in his brief article about Kawasaki disease (Body and Mind, November 28) it might indeed be justifiable for the general practitioner to manage the child at home: until the diagnosis becomes clear.

It has, however, been known for some years that high-dose intravenous gamma globulin, or in some cases plasma exchange, can be effective in treating this life-threatening disease. These treatments can only be administered in hospital, and I would support the view that children as ill as those described by Dr Stuttford should be seen by a paediatrician.

Yours faithfully,
JACK GILLON
(Consultant physician),
Edinburgh and SE Scotland
Blood Transfusion Service,
Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh 3,
November 29.

Libya revisited

From Mr Adrian Newman

Sir, I wish Mrs Daisy Norris, the defiant widow visiting her first husband's grave in Libya (report, November 25), my very best regards.

I travelled to Tripoli on business in June, and was met by nothing but friendliness and politeness. The Libyan people were courteous and helpful, and there was no resentment or overt signs of government interference. Indeed, the only unpleasant part of the trip was the interminably long drive from Tunisia, and the rather unprepossessing frontier posts.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
ADRIAN NEWMAN,
20 Munster Road,
Teddington, Middlesex,
November 28.

Unacceptable

From Mr Robert Worboys

Sir, In a letter today headed "Thatcher's speech", the phrases "neither of us were involved" and "neither of us were part of" are used.

I have been forced to reluctantly accept the split infinitive. I have even taken red wine with fish, but I cannot and will not accept that the word neither is plural. Nor, for the record, is none.

Yours faithfully,
R. K. WORBOYS,
60 Minister Court, Darlaston,
Wedgebury, West Midlands,
November 25.

Beak's revenge

From Mr Brian Etheridge

Sir, As a retired schoolmaster who failed in his ambition to become headmaster of a famous public school, I am planning to sue every pupil (report, December 2) who, through indolence and indiscipline, was responsible for my lack of success.

Yours sincerely,
BRIAN ETHERIDGE,
Classica House,
High Street, Burford, Oxfordshire,
December 2.

Freedom of speech

From Mr Roy D. Roebuck

Sir, On July 30 you published a letter from me criticising the proposal being floated by unknown Labour sources to give the Chief Whip greater power to withdraw the whip from Labour MPs who "consistently criticise the leader" when the Chief Whip does not have any existing power to do so.

Today you report that Mr Blair's office has said that there will be "no disciplinary action" against Ms Diane Abbott, the MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington, for her criticism of a hospital for employing blonde, blue-eyed Finnish nurses.

What authority does Mr Blair have to discipline (whatever that means) any MP for anything an MP says, however barmy? Ms Abbott is responsible to her constituents for her silly observations, not to Mr Blair or his anonymous factotums, whose wages have been paid by anonymous donors.

What next — an *Index Librorum Prohibitorum* prepared by Mr Mandelson?

I have the honour to remain,
Sir, your obedient servant,
ROY ROEBUCK
(Labour MP, Harrow East, 1966-70),
12 Brookside Street, NI,
November 29.

Canterbury and Rome

From the Reverend Dr Ian M. Ellis

Sir, Your correspondent Richard Owen reports from Rome (November 30) that the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Pope will celebrate Vespers together during Dr Carey's visit to the Vatican. The significant point is that it is not Holy Communion.

Of course, one is aware that the Roman Catholic Church has its theological reasons for confining the sharing of the Eucharist, except in certain restricted circumstances, to those who are in full communion with the Pope. Indeed, Anglicans used to exclude others from Holy Communion, but reflection on the matter has changed practice.

Even within its own ecclesiology, could the Roman Catholic Church not permit inter-church families to share in the Holy Communion together, and admit members of other churches to eucharistic sharing on occasions that are specifically for the purposes of furthering the unity of the Church? The work of Christian unity can surely only benefit from the grace of the sacrament.

Yours faithfully,
IAN M. ELLIS,
The Rectory,
1 King Street, Newcastle, Co Down,
December 2.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 2: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended a reception at the Currier Club, London WC2, to mark the publication of a catalogue of the Club's pictures and were received by the Chairman of the General Committee (Mr Anthony Butler).
His Royal Highness, The Duke of Cornwall, this morning attended a Council Meeting and Lunch at St George's House, Windsor.
The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon visited North Luffield, Maidenhead, and was received by Mr Leonard Reynolds (Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Berkshire).
His Royal Highness, The Duke of Gloucester, this evening attended a Dinner at the Garrick Club.
Mr William Huxtable (Deputy Lieutenant of the West Midlands) was present at Birmingham Airport this afternoon upon the arrival of President Mary Robinson and Mr Nicholas Robinson and welcomed them on behalf of The Queen.

Premium Bonds

The £1 million prize in the Premium Bond draw for December was won with bond number 58QN 953083. The winner lives in Devon, and has a bond holding of £9,000.

School news

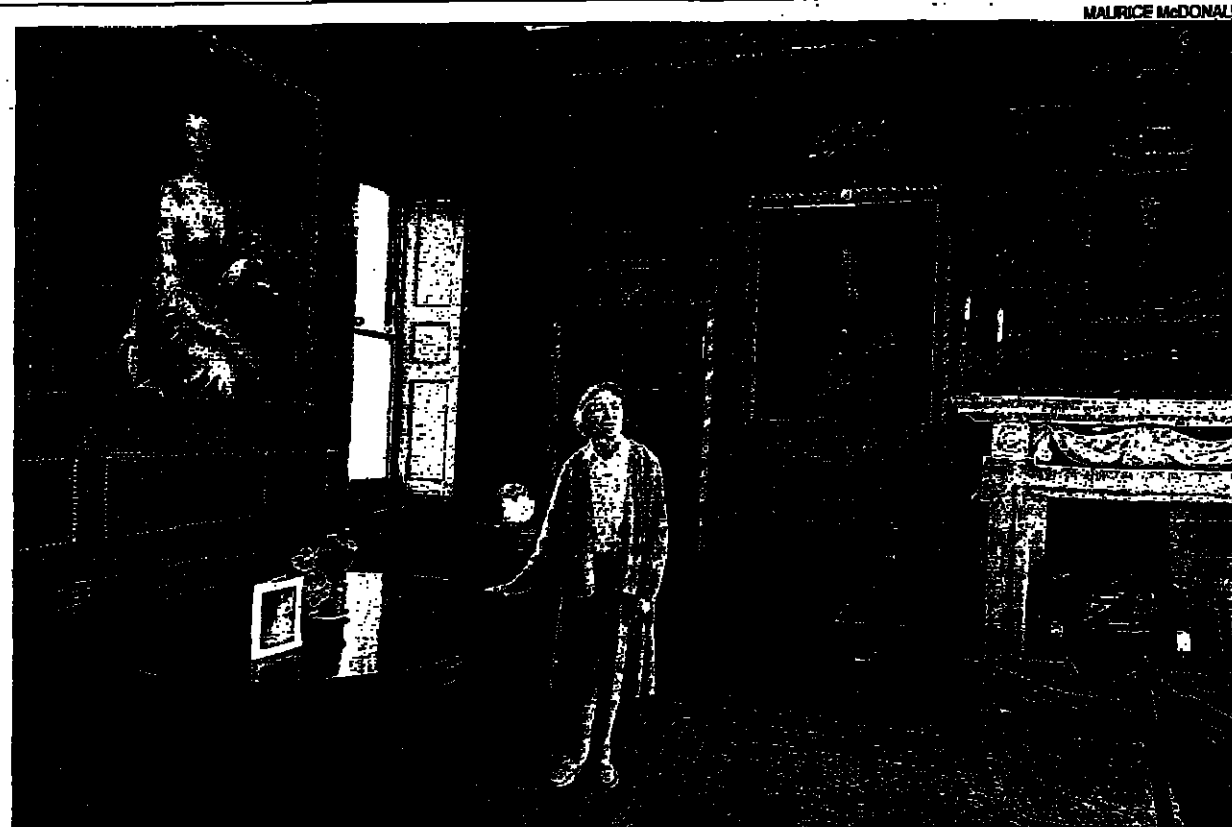
Down House
The Governors of Down House are pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs Emma McKendrick BA, currently Headmistress of the Royal School, Bath, as Headmistress from September 1, 1997.
The Royal School, Bath
The Board of Governors of The Royal School, Bath is pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs Christine Edmundson, currently Deputy Head, as Headmistress of the Royal School in succession to Mrs Emma McKendrick from September 1, 1997. The Board warmly congratulates Mrs McKendrick upon her appointment as Headmistress of Down House in Berkshire.

Appointment

Mr Robert K. Littlejohn has been appointed Registrar of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow.

Today's birthdays

Professor E.W. Abel, President of the Royal Society of Chemistry, 65; Mr Trevor Bailey, former cricketer, 73; Mr Ralph Bennett, former chairman, London Transport Executive, 73; Mr John Bunker, founder, The Winged Footings, 82; Professor Ian Butterworth, former Principal, Queen Mary and Westfield College, 60; Mr Charles Craig, actor, 78; Mr Mike Gibson, former rugby player, 54; M Jean-Luc Godard, film director, 64; Miss Daryl Hannah, actress, 36; Sir William Harpham, former diplomat, 80; Mr Maxwell Hutchinson, architect, 48; Sir Brian Jenkins, former Lord Mayor of London, 61; Professor G.S. Kirk, FBA, former Regius Professor of



Lady Antonia Dalrymple at Newhailes, the house her family has owned for more than 200 years
18th-century 'time capsule' saved for £12m

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

AN exceptional Scottish country-house, a 1730s time capsule that has remained virtually unchanged for 200 years, has been saved for the nation.
Newhailes, a stately home at Musselburgh near Edinburgh, has been acquired by the National Trust for Scotland. Historic carvings, elaborate iron balustrades and a gilt-enriched chimney-piece, which some are showing signs of their age, will be restored to their original state. Many of the walls have not received a coat of paint since the 1730s builders packed up their brushes and left. They will remain like that.
The announcement was made by Michael Forsyth, the Secretary of State for Scotland, who responded to the National Trust for Scotland's appeal for £12.7 million. The National Heritage Memorial Trust is among other grant-giving bodies.
Newhailes's trustees and the elderly last surviving member of the family that installed its original decorations could no longer afford to maintain the house. The cost of battling against dry rot



Newhailes, a country house near Musselburgh, has been virtually untouched since it was built

proved too much, though the idea of selling up was distressing for Lady Antonia Dalrymple. The house was originally bought by an ancestor of her late husband, Sir Mark Dalrymple, the last Baronet of Hailes, purchased in 1707, and it had remained with the Dalrymples — a family of judges, lord advocates and secretaries of state — ever since. Lady Antonia lived there for half a century.
Over the years, historic baroque plasterwork with gilded seashells, a motif that continues throughout the house, steadily flaked away. Lady Antonia could only save the chippings — a jigsaw that she felt would one day be reassembled by restorers. "Any money we had had to be spent on dry rot," she explained. "That's why the house is in the state it is in."
She recalled that the trustees had "talked of Christie's coming" and auctioning off the contents, while the house would be put on the market. "A horrible thought."
In 1976, she saw the house's

library and archive leave for the National Library of Scotland in lieu of duties after her husband's death. Douglas Dow, director of the trust, said: "It is highly likely that, if the trust acquires Newhailes, the collection will be returned to fill the empty shelves of the library which Dr Johnson called 'the most learned library in Europe'."
He added: "With its matchless architecture, interiors and contents, Newhailes is enormously important. Its interior, with its marvellous portraits and elaborate rococo decoration, transports the visitor to the early 18th century and the world of the Scottish Enlightenment."

Memorial service

Mr R.C.C. (Clem) Thomas
A service of celebration for the life of Mr Richard Clement Charles (Clem) Thomas, former Captain of Wales and former rugby correspondent of The Observer, was held yesterday at St Bricks, Fleet Street. Canon John Oates officiated.
Mr Gregory Thomas, son, read the lesson. Mr Christopher Thomas, son, read from his father's works. Mrs Caroline Pumphrey, daughter, read from the works of Canon Henry Scott Holland and Mr Mark Thomas, son, read his own work.
Mr Peter Corrigan, Mr Geoffrey Nicholson and Mr Chris Ken of the Independent on Sunday, Mr Gavin Hastings, of the British Lions and Scotland, Mr Nigel Summer-Smith, BBC Television, and Mr Ian Robertson, BBC Radio, gave addresses. Dr Joyce Thomas (widow), Dr and Mrs Nicholson Bowley (stepson and step-daughter-in-law), Mr and Mrs Richard Wilkinson (stepson-in-law and stepdaughter) and other members of the family, friends and colleagues were among those present.

Sir Roderick Barclay

A Memorial Service for Sir Roderick Barclay will be held at St Paul's, Wilton Place, Knightsbridge, on Thursday, January 23, at noon. All are welcome.

Geoff Hamilton

A Service of Celebration of the Life and Skills of Geoff Hamilton, BBC Gardening Journalist, will be held on Thursday, December 5, at 11.30am, at St John's Wood Church, Lord's Roundabout, NW8. A limited number of tickets are still available from the BBC.

Christening

The infant son of Mr and Mrs Ian Sumner was christened Alex by the Rev Wendy Smith at St Paul's, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, on Sunday, December 1, 1996. The godparents are Mr M.G. Sumner, uncle, and Mr Ronald H. Evans.

Meeting

Royal Over-Sea League
Miss Joanna Bogle was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Sea League held last night at Over-Sea House, St James's. Mrs Mairi Radcliff presided.

Luncheon

Coal Industry Society
Mr M.G. Crutwell, President of the Coal Industry Society, introduced the Rev David Jenkins as the principal guest and speaker at a luncheon of the society held yesterday at the Park Lane Hotel, Mr A.J.A. Third presided.

Service dinner

Cavalry Colonels
The Minutes of Anglesbury, author of The History of the British Cavalry, was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the Cavalry Colonels which was held at the Cavalry and Guards Club last night.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr W.A.D. St L. Gethin
and Miss E.A. Stewart-Wilson
The engagement is announced between William Anthony David St Lawrence, younger son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Gethin, and Belinda Anthea, youngest daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Sir Blair and Lady Stewart-Wilson.
Mr M. Decker
and Miss J.E. Nicholson
The engagement is announced between Matthew, only son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Decker, of Bristol, Avon, and Jane Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the Rev Dr E.W. and Mrs Nicholson, of Oriel College, Oxford.
Mr A.S.O. Jones-Perrott
and Miss S.H.C. Green
The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs Robert Jones-Perrott, of Llanfairfawr, Pwys, and Sarah, daughter of the late Mr Bill Green and of Mrs Green, of Badingham, Suffolk.
Mr D.C.C. Pears
and Miss W.J. J.
The engagement is announced between David, third son of Major Mrs A.W.C. Pears, of South Devon, Somerset, and Wendy, daughter of Professor Hong Ji and Mrs Peng Lin Ji, of Shanghai.

Marriage

Mr S. Canfield Rogers
and Miss Y. Lencastre
The marriage took place on Saturday, November 9, 1996, in Canterbury, of Mr Simon Canfield Rogers, of Miss Yolande Lencastre, of Leuven, Belgium.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Samuel Crompton, inventor of the spinning mule, 1733; Sir Rowland Hill, originator of the penny post, Kidderminster, 1795; Frederick Leighton, Baron Leighton, President of the Royal Academy, 1879-96; Scarborough, 1836; Joseph Conrad, novelist, 1857; Anton von Weimern, composer, Vienna, 1883; Rajendra Prasad, 1st President of the Republic of India 1950-63; Zoraida, Bihar, 1894.

DEATHS: Francis Xavier, missionary, Shang-chai, China, 1822; Robert Louis Stevenson, writer, Samoa, 1894; Mary Baker Eddy, founder of the Church of Christ, Scientist, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, 1910; Pierre Renoir, painter, Cagnes, France, 1919; Dame Mary Gilmore, poet, 1902; Sir Oswald Mosley, politician, founder of the British Union of Fascists, Paris, 1980.

Neon lighting — developed by French physicist Georges Claude, was displayed for the first time at the Paris Motor Show, 1910.

Dr Christian Barnard carried out the world's first heart transplant, Broome Shastar-Hospital, Cape Town, 1967.

More than 3,000 people were killed as a result of a chemical attack at the Union Carbide pesticide factory in Bhopal, India, 1984.

Warwickshire

Lieutenancy
Mr Robert Hardman Graham Sleggett, of Wellesbourne, Warwick, has been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of Warwickshire.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

BIRTHS

ALDOUSMAN - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Aldousman, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BARNETT - On November 29th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BARNWELL - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BATHURST - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BURDET - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

CLEMPSON - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

DAVEY - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

DEATHS

ALDOUSMAN - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Aldousman, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BARNETT - On November 29th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BARNWELL - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BATHURST - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BURDET - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

CLEMPSON - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

DAVEY - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

ALDOUSMAN - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Aldousman, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BARNETT - On November 29th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BARNWELL - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BATHURST - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BURDET - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

CLEMPSON - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

DAVEY - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

ALDOUSMAN - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Aldousman, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BARNETT - On November 29th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BARNWELL - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BATHURST - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BURDET - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

CLEMPSON - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

DAVEY - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

ALDOUSMAN - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Aldousman, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BARNETT - On November 29th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BARNWELL - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BATHURST - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BURDET - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

CLEMPSON - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

DAVEY - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

ALDOUSMAN - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Aldousman, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BARNETT - On November 29th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BARNWELL - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BATHURST - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

BURDET - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

CLEMPSON - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

DAVEY - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

GLADSTONE - On November 28th at the Portland Hospital to Emma and Paul Barnett, a son, Mohammed, a brother for Keem and Javahar.

Tax cuts will decrease income

Pat Blair introduces a two-page report on fundraising for charitable organisations

Charities that can diversify across the broadest possible range of fundraising, marketing, trading and public relations activities are the ones that are most likely to be, and remain, successful.

So says Stephen Lee, director of the Institute of Charity Fund Raising Managers, whose members — more than 2,500 individuals covering 1,250 organisations — are specialists in the field. "It would not be appropriate," he says, "to blame the demise of some charitable bodies on the major national charities' increased voluntary income, the impact of the National Lottery or the current economic climate. In any year there are winners and losers."

For more than two years, the Institute has been tracking, quarterly, the fundraising performance of 70 charities — large and medium sized — with a combined annual income from donations of £750 million out of an estimated total income of £3 billion to £5 billion.

"Those organisations have shown a real increase in income, across the board,

from nearly every different type of activity, save public collecting which has remained static," Mr Lee says. "The financial climate has been improving for some time. There is no evidence as far as we can see that there is a direct loss as a result of the lottery."

One effect of last week's Budget, however, will lose voluntary bodies money, through a reduction in the amount of tax reclaimed under planned-giving schemes. The National Council of Voluntary Organisations suggests that the one penny off the basic rate of income tax will cost charities £13.8 million a year.

Increasingly, charities are becoming more professional in their approach. At the same time they are returning to their roots, forging closer links with the community in which they work, a move that is reciprocated by business.

Far from the issue of voluntary income is the impact that the removal of statutory support, from both central and local government, has had. According to Mr Lee, it has gradually declined over the past 15 years, particularly in



Shopping at the Barnardo's shop in Brixton, south London

core support for a whole movement of activities that were founded and then sustained through statutory support. "The notion that fund-

raising of voluntary income can somehow make up the difference is misplaced. It never was an option and never should have been promoted as such," he says.

Reduced budgets, expenditure cuts and the effects of local council reorganisation have all struck the voluntary sector. Since local government reorganisation in Scotland in April, "we estimate that close to 1,000 jobs have been lost in the voluntary sector and about

16,000 people have lost access to services," says Martin Sims, director of the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations. About £10 million, 8 per cent of council funding has been cut from voluntary groups. Small charities are among the worst hit. "The £500 discretionary grant is most affected, and that affects grassroots organisations."

Since central government grants form the greater part of

council spending, Mr Sims says, the effects of the Budget suggest that when councils set their budgets in January, "we're all expecting bad news, again."

But at the end of the day, the service any charity gives is dependent on its ability to raise funds — and on its optimism. As Mr Sims says: "We just hope that there are better times around the corner."

How to donate with the help of the taxman

Revenue rules can make giving remarkably easy on the pocket

People who donate to charitable organisations often surrender money to the Inland Revenue that could, at no extra cost to the individual, benefit registered charities, Pat Blair writes.

Most of the money that people contribute is not given tax-efficiently. While charities could claim back the equivalent of the basic rate of income tax — 24 per cent now, 23 per cent from next April — only about 10 per cent of donations are organised to allow them to do so.

To take advantage of tax breaks, recipient charities must, however, either be registered with the Charity Commission or be recognised as charitable bodies by the Inland Revenue.

There are three main ways for individuals to give away money tax-effectively: deed of covenant; gift aid; and payroll deduction. The first two operate on taxed income, the third operates on earned income before tax is paid.

The deed of covenant, the oldest method, is a contractual agreement to pay, for at least four years, an annual donation to a particular charity. The charity can reclaim the basic rate of tax already paid by the donor; higher-rate taxpayers can also claim back the marginal rate for themselves from the Inland Revenue. There is no minimum or maximum amount, although, says Vicky Pulman of the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF), "some charities impose a minimum to cover their costs."

Gift aid is a single one-off donation. The minimum payment is £250 in a year and there is no maximum. Again, the charity can reclaim basic-rate tax, while higher-rate taxpayers can reclaim the marginal rates. This can also be done through a charity account opened by an individual or company. A chequebook and/or a charity debit card

is issued and the donor can distribute the money as he or she wishes.

Payroll deduction is the only one of the three schemes to operate on pre-tax income. Donations are made direct from salary at source, before tax, thus also reducing the donor's tax liability. Donations can also be made from pensions that are taxed under PAYE.

Among a number of payroll deduction schemes, the best known is probably Give As You Earn, operated by CAF. But they also include the Charities Trust, and Sharing the Caring; the latter was bought earlier this year by Help the Aged, which is currently negotiating with other charities jointly to run the scheme.

Payroll giving operates through employers, who deduct the agreed amount from the employee's salary and forward it to the operator of the scheme with whom they are contracted. The scheme's operator will then distribute the money to the selected charities.

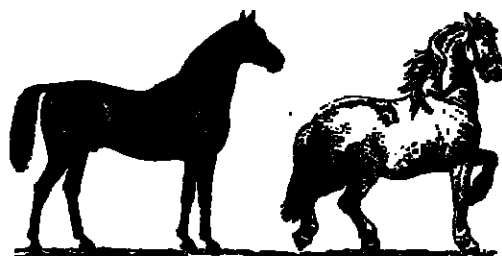
The choice of charity is flexible, says Miss Pulman. Money can be distributed as agreed by, say, staff representatives. "Another alternative is that each individual can choose the charities — up to eight through Give As You Earn — they wish to support," she says.

Companies can also take advantage of tax-efficient schemes. There is the CAF Company Account: a payment, representing the company's charitable budget net of tax, is paid into the account and CAF reclaims the basic rate of tax paid by the company, crediting it to the account. The company may then set the gross amount in the account (payment plus reclaimed tax) against profits, thus reducing its corporation tax.

Charities Aid Foundation (01752 520000). Company Account Inquiries (0171 400 2300). Charities Trust (0151 940 1900). Sharing the Caring (01227 711757).

COIF Charity Funds

The natural selection for a charity's investments and cash



Horses have been bred over the centuries to serve man for different uses — for transport, agriculture and sport. So too the £1,000 million stable of COIF Charity Funds is designed to meet a Charity's varying investment needs:

- Investment Fund for long-term capital and income growth
- Fixed Interest Fund for above average income yield
- Deposit Fund for cash balances

For more information, please contact:
Richard Coulson on 0171 588 1815.



The charity investment specialists

CCLA INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED

Please remember that share values and dividends can fall as well as rise and an investor may not get back the amount invested. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future returns. The COIF Charities Investment Fund is a registered charity, issued by CCLA Investment Management Limited (regulated by IMRO). The Trustees and CCLA, in managing this fund, are "regulated persons" under the Financial Services Act 1986.

The old question: what exactly is a charity?

Rodney Hobson on the changes facing the voluntary sector

It has taken 400 years, so no one is rushing to make major changes to the legal framework surrounding charities. But Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, and those involved in charities have acknowledged that the time has come to reconsider just what is a charity.

An independent commission on the future of the voluntary sector chaired by Professor Nicholas Deakin concluded that the legal definition of what constitutes a charity should be redefined in modern terms.

Laws governing charities date back to 1601, but changes will not be easy. One difficulty will be distinguishing between charities and non-profit-making organisations such as clubs, schools and arts organisations.

Also at issue is tax relief. Some big charities earn an increasing proportion of their income by providing welfare services under businesslike contracts with local and health authorities.

While charity umbrella organisations would welcome any clarification of the position, they are reluctant to campaign openly for a change in the legal definition of charities for fear that some of their own members could be excluded. They also feel that changes might make the position more complex rather than clearer. At present, at least they know where they stand.

The Deakin report recommended that there should be extensive public debate leading to a redefinition of the term "charity", based on the concept of public benefit. It also proposed a voluntary sector Law Commission to keep aspects of voluntary sector law under review and an independent Charity Appeal Tribunal with powers to review decisions of the Charity Commission on the registration of charities.

Announcing the Government's response to the Deakin report, Mrs Bottomley took a sympathetic line towards charities when she addressed the Charity Directors' Network last month: "It is impossible to over-emphasise the importance of the voluntary sector in this country. There are over half a million voluntary organisations in the UK with an income of some £15 billion. Over half the adult population take part in voluntary activity each year, making a vital contribution to their communities."

The Deakin report proposed a "concordat" between Government and voluntary organisations. Mrs Bottomley replied: "I support the aim of encouraging good practice and better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of Government and voluntary organisations. However, the term 'concordat' seems to imply a more rigid relationship than is appropriate, given the diverse and dynamic nature of voluntary organisations."

The Charity Commission is to carry out a review of the

to promoting public discussion of the scope of charity under existing law. The Government believes that process should be completed before it decides whether more fundamental reform is needed."

She said the Law Commission would not be involved in the issue. She also expressed doubts whether a Charity Appeal Tribunal would help to clarify the law unless there was also a major revision of the procedures of the courts.

existing register of charities as it transfers its records onto computer. Mrs Bottomley said: "The commission has a substantial task in front of it, particularly as it is committed

Charifund Charibond

Collective investment management for charities

M&G has been involved with the investment management of charitable funds since 1960 and is one of the most experienced managers of charitable funds in the UK.

Charifund is a wider-range investment for recognised charities to invest in a broad spread of shares and can pay out its quarterly income distributions without deduction of tax.

Charibond is a narrower-range common investment fund which invests in Government securities and other fixed interest stocks and deposits designed to produce a high income with the possibility of some capital growth.

Any charity recognised by the Inland Revenue may invest. A share exchange scheme, with favourable terms, is available.

Trustees should be aware that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up, and that past performance is no guarantee of the future.

To: The M&G Group, M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Return this coupon or telephone Denise Stubbs on our Charity Helpline 01245 390 472 during business hours for details of Charifund, Charibond and the M&G Share Exchange Scheme.

Mr/Ms	INITIALS	SURNAME
ADDRESS		
POSTCODE		TELEPHONE NUMBER
KC-PCAA		

M&G also provide a segregated investment management service for charities with funds of £15m or more. Please tick this ☐ box if you are interested.

We never make your name and address available to unconnected organisations. Naturally we will occasionally tell you about other products or services offered by CIM or companies which are members of the M&G Group. Tick the box ☐ if you would prefer not to receive this information. The Share Exchange Scheme is operated by M&G Financial Services Limited — Regulated by The Personal Investment Authority.

M&G Securities Limited are the managing agents for Charities Investment Managers Limited and the fund manager of Charibond. M&G and Charities Investment Managers Limited do not offer investment advice or make any recommendations regarding investments. We only market the packaged products and services of the M&G marketing group and Charifund respectively. M&G Investment Management Limited is regulated by IMRO. Charities Investment Managers Limited is regulated by IMRO and The Personal Investment Authority. Issued by M&G Securities Limited — regulated by IMRO and The Personal Investment Authority.



The M&G Group

No two charities have the same investment needs. Which is why we go deeper to understand yours.

Much deeper, in fact. At Baring Asset Management, you'll have the support of a Portfolio Manager who has specific expertise in charities, and whose task is to gain a thorough understanding of your particular requirements.

Armed with this knowledge, your Portfolio Manager is then able to focus the views of our global stockpicking teams and asset allocation experts to your best

advantage. No other charity fund manager offers such a tailored service.

Our approach is backed by an understanding of the market few can match. Could this be why we're currently entrusted with charitable assets of over

£1 billion? For a fund manager who looks just that little bit deeper, look to us. For more information, call our Charities Team on Freephone 0500 214 000.



Baring Asset Management Limited
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3XY. Tel: 0171-628 6000 Fax: 0171-638 7928
Regulated by IMRO. Member of ING Group.

Rodney Hobson discovers how charities are organising themselves to ensure a tighter hold on purse strings and greater efficiency

Watching the pennies and saving pounds

Charities are flexing their financial muscles. Not only are those who hold the purse strings aiming for greater efficiency but they are also extracting better terms from suppliers and the banks.

Stephen Burgess at Help the Aged explains: "When I came into the sector I thought charity finance would be like commercial finance but there was a lot more involved."

Unlike in the private sector, and even to some extent the public sector, you do not have customers demanding service and shareholders demanding returns on equity. Yet the public rightly demands that the money is well spent and the organisation is run efficiently."

Mr Burgess is chairman of the Charities Finance Directors Group. It was set up eight years ago by a handful of finance directors in major charities who got together one weekend to discuss a number of common issues. They found they could usefully

compare notes on financial control and management and work together to do a better job.

The group now has more than 600 members from over 500 charities. Mr Burgess says: "We are in the business of improving excellence in the financial management of charities. There are two parts: making sure the standards and guidelines of good financial management are in place and helping to make sure the individuals who apply those standards are properly trained and educated."

We work very closely with the Charity Commission, the Accounting Standards Board and the profession in the widest sense, and interpret standards in the appropriate way."

The group holds monthly meetings at the Institute of Chartered

Accountants' headquarters in Moorgate, London, where the focus is on educational issues. It has a number of sub groups using the expertise of members on specific topics and has helpines to give members free advice on matters such as VAT, tax, accounting standards and investment.

Mr Burgess says: "Consistent with that, we have a role in promoting and advocating the importance of these issues so trustees and executives of charities understand the importance of recruiting the right sort of people."

The group has members from almost all the 100 biggest charities and from 50 per cent of the main grant-making charities. Although its members tend not to be from

the tiniest charities it does attract people responsible for organisations with turnovers of as little as £100,000 a year.

The scope for growth is considerable. Mr Burgess says: "We

grown by about 10 per cent each year and Mr Burgess expects this rate to accelerate as the group markets itself more aggressively."

He says that the benefits of the group are not confined to the 600 members. "The work that we do benefits the charity sector in the widest sense of the word. The work we do with bodies such as the Charity Commission and the Government benefits all charities. For example, we do a lot of work on reserves

Charities have general reserves that support the long term well-being of the organisation and restricted funds that are effectively earmarked either by the donor or trustees for specific causes or recipients."

Just over two years ago Mr Burgess decided to go one step further and form the Charities Consortium, which was specifically targeted at helping charities to work together to get better commercial deals.

He says: "I am in my fourth year in the charities sector after a career in the commercial world. I found charities just weren't getting the proper leverage with suppliers. Even larger charities were not getting the level of discount and quality of service with suppliers and banks that I expected in the commercial world. Now the consortium has more than 20 members in the top 30 charities, all household names. We voluntarily compare notes on costs of supplies and on bank charges."

He says Help the Aged has

halved its bank charges in the past two to three years, primarily because of competition between banks. Other charities have done the same.

He says: "Longer term, we hope to provide information and benefits to smaller charities as well. The nature of the organisation is such that most of the benefits to be enjoyed are for larger charities working together but we might be able to make those same benefits available to smaller charities."

He points out that banks have been quite open in stating that they treat charities on a par with commercial organisations for business. The consortium is trying to regulate charges in the same way that commercial organisations might.

One example of this was inviting banks to tender for business. Some charity finance directors discovered that their own bank was prepared to offer concessions that the charity was not aware of.

‘We voluntarily compare notes on costs of supplies and on bank charges’

estimate that something like 5,000 charities have a professional manager, although the figure may not necessarily be full-time."

Membership of the group has increased by more than 70 this year. So far membership has

Get set for deregulation

Rodney Hobson on the new rules governing what fund managers can invest in

Charities are facing their biggest shake-up since the 1961 Trustee Investments Act gave them greater freedom to invest their funds.

Decisions are expected early next year on two discussion papers put forward by the Government. The first, issued in early summer, proposed scrapping the 1961 Act and with it the rule that a proportion of charity funds must be invested in "narrow range" investments — those such as gilts that are considered ultra-safe but produce an income.

Last month the Government also proposed, in consultation with the Charity Commission, to alter the regulation covering common investment funds, where smaller charities band together to cut costs and spread their portfolios.

The proposal is to structure



A benefactress in 1879. Today, legacies still bring the top charities one third of their income

the common pools like authorised unit trusts, with a corporate trustee. The exemption from the Financial Services Act could also be removed.

Although it is now seen as restrictive, the 1961 Act in fact gave charity finance directors greater flexibility. It laid down that only 50 per cent of investments had to be in gilts

or equivalent safe investments. That figure was cut to 25 per cent in 1994.

The regulations were designed to ensure that donations were not wiped out by

charities tempted to invest in high-yield but highly risky investments. During the past 35 years there has, however, been an increasing realisation that "safe" investments do not necessarily provide the best long-term returns. Shares, as the stock exchange reminds us, can go down as well as up. But over time they generally provide better returns — in the form of dividends and share price increases — than bank and building society deposits.

As Sarah Hamilton, charities marketing manager at Flettings, says: "Trustees can be just as prudent in investment as in other areas in their remit. They are obliged to act with the best interests of the charity at heart — so why not extend that to investment as well? A lot of charities depend on the income from their investments."

Even so, the Government's proposal to scrap the Act surprised many in the field of charities finance. It suggested that trustees should be given the power to invest the charity's money as if they were investing in their own right.

Ms Hamilton says: "The Government does want to retain protective measures. We agree that protection must not be diminished."

Investment advisers might be expected to favour forcing trustees to seek advice — but in fact they agree this may be undesirable and unenforceable. They believe trustees will be inclined to seek advice anyway.

The discussion paper implied that if the 1961 Act is repealed, trustees will be required to exercise a reasonable degree of responsibility but not to seek advice on most investments.

"It might be unreasonable for smaller charities to pay for advice," says Ms Hamilton. "Often there is someone close to the charity whom they could consult."

The Government looks certain to make changes, provided there is still time with a general election looming. Some charities have already

‘Trustees should always act in the charity's best interest’

got around the rules by gaining exemption from the Charity Commission or from their own governing body.

To get round the 1961 Act, many newer charities have been established with governing documents drawn up in such a way as to give them wider powers. The Government is expected to bring all charities into line.

Charities switching to new investments may have to consider the implications of "ethical investments". If, for instance, a charity devoted to helping cancer victims chose not to invest in tobacco companies, this would be lawful even if tobacco was an attractive investment in financial terms. However, a charity could not avoid tobacco companies simply because it was run by a non-smoker. It would be expected to choose its investments on financial grounds only, avoiding tobacco companies only if it felt they represented a poor risk.

"What trustees should always do is to act in the best financial interests of the charity," says Ms Hamilton. "What clouds the issue is that some trustees may have strong personal views. That is not a justification for making or avoiding certain investments."

"Ethically responsible companies will probably do well in the future because they are already complying with the higher standards that are being enforced by law. They will not get caught out by legislation."

CFDG



CHARITY FINANCE DIRECTORS' GROUP

Promoting excellence in financial management for charities

CFDG represents over 600 finance professionals from more than 500 leading charities.

CFDG works with the Charity Commission, Accounting Standards Board and other bodies to establish standards in financial management of charities.

CFDG free services to members include:

- Monthly meetings on a wide range of topical subjects.
- The Charity Finance Yearbook.
- Quarterly Newsletters.
- Helplines for questions on accounting, law, investment and tax.

Annual membership costs from £80.

Please send me information about joining the CFDG:

Name: _____
Charity: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____

Return to: Mrs Claire Webb, CFDG, c/o Barnardo's, Tanners Lane, Barking, IG6 1QG
A Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England No. 3182826. A Registered Charity.

Henderson
INVESTORS

We focus our skills at Henderson Investors to provide you with specialist investment management for charity funds

Please telephone Mark Toller or John Harris on 0171 410 4100

Henderson Investors is the name under which Henderson Financial Management Limited and Henderson Touche Remnant Unit Trust Management Limited (both regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority) and Henderson Administration Limited (regulated by IMRO) provide investment products and services. 3 Finsbury Avenue London EC2M 2PA.

Investment performance about quality — in both the investment team and the investment process.

In fast-moving markets, it takes a strong fund management team to keep abreast of what's happening in economies and companies around the world.

And a robust decision-making process to turn that detailed knowledge into committed, yet controlled, investment policies.

At Morgan Grenfell Asset Management, we have over 150 fund managers dedicated to identifying opportunities in markets from America to New Zealand.

We have a disciplined approach to asset allocation and stock selection, ensuring that every client benefits from the talents of the whole team.

And our range of segregated, pooled and specialist services means that we can offer this quality of resource and decision-making to institutional clients with assets of anywhere from under £1 million to over £1 billion.

For more information, call Rufus Warner or Mary Plummer on 0171 545 6000.

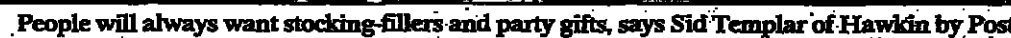
There's no time like the present.

MORGAN GRENFELL ASSET MANAGEMENT
20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1NB
Trusted by Morgan Grenfell Investment Management Ltd.
Regulated by IMRO

RESOURCES • RESEARCH • RESULTS

**'Tis the season to be busy
with toys and curiosities**

"It's quite simple for a mentor company to come in and help—it's a question of knowing what you can do, and how," says Mark Bevan, managing director of Forms UK, print managers and one of 25 sponsor companies that include Rover, Wagon and Wyko. More will be added.



**For a Hawkin by Post catalogue
phone 01986 782458.**

BY BRIAN COLLETT

Credit uni

Ergonomics at Work and Home
Run factsheets on effective home
working are obtainable free from
01292 641212.

BY DAVID FANNING

"Usually the answer to cashflow problems is an overdraft at onerous rates of interest," said Mr Jones. "The business comes more under the control of the bank. With the business credit union, you're dealing with other small businessmen."



from commissioned research, that hundreds of thousands more could be employed in the sector if the first £5,000 of profits were tax-free, small companies' corporation tax was cut to 20 per cent, the VAT

□ A guide to computer data law and security, aimed at people working from home and from telecottages, has been prepared by the Data Protection Agency and the TCA, the renamed Telecottage Association, and is due out by the end of the year.

The British Library Lloyds Bank Business Line, opened as a free information service in 1994, has had its 100,000th call. Mechanical hazards for an advertising campaign and cattle gallstones have been among the strangest requests.

[illegible][illegible]

McGovern enjoys cracking good month of November



THE end of November brings two sets of winners in *The Times Interactive Team Football* game. Mr M. McGovern, of Liverpool, wins £1,000 for the monthly prize, scoring 82 points over November with his team March Pass. The weekly prize of £250 has been won by Mr R.A. Tiri, of London, who scored 35 points last week with his team Inter Anna.

In the overall competition, John Hunt remains in front, eight points clear of the chasing pack. Mr Hunt now boasts six of his Taunton teams in the leading 25 selectors; the challenge, as he readily admits, is keeping them there. He had better beware: one of the Gohls, pipped at the post last year, is lurking in fifth position.

Mr Tiri's team is:

Goalkeeper
A Goram (Rangers)

Full backs
P Atherton (Sheffield Wed)
S Staunton (Aston Villa)

Central defenders
D Matteo (Liverpool)
R Scimeca (Aston Villa)

Midfield players
N Ardley (Wimbledon)
N Butt (Manchester Utd)
S Donnelly (Celtic)
B Laudrup (Rangers)

Strikers
P van Hooijdonk (Celtic)
I Rush (Leeds Utd)

Manager
J Kinnear (Wimbledon)



Two goals on Saturday for Bridges, of Sunderland, could lead to an extended run and a good haul of ITF points



If your team could be doing better, you can move into the transfer market to improve your fortunes. You can use the ITF transfer system which

allows you to change up to two players each week and to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership or Bell's Scottish League premier division.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the 0891 884 643 line during the times given. From outside the United Kingdom, you must call 0044 990 200 668.

When making a transfer, you must ensure that the team does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the prizes — the overall £50,000, monthly £1,000 or weekly £250.

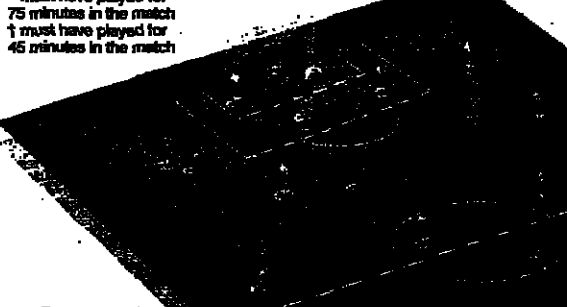
All Interactive Team Football transfer queries should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01582 488 122.

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All 1996-7 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, EFL Cup, Scottish League premier division and Tynes Scottish Cup from August 17 count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

POINTS SCORED	
Goalkeeper	4pts
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts
Saves penalty	1pt
Full back/Central defender	3pts
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts
Saves goal	1pt
Midfield player	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	2pts
Saves goal	1pt
Striker	2pts
Saves goal	1pt
All players	1pt
Appearance	1pt
Saves hat-trick	6pts
Manager	3pts
Team wins	1pt
Team draws	1pt

POINTS DEDUCTED	
Goalkeeper	2pts
Concedes goal	1pt
Full back/Central defender	1pt
Concedes goal	1pt
All players	3pts
Start off	1pt
Must have played for 75 minutes in the match	1pt
Must have played for 45 minutes in the match	1pt
Booked	1pt
Concedes penalty	1pt
Misses penalty	1pt
Saves own goal	1pt
Manager	1pt
Team loses	1pt



100 VIDEOS WORTH £14.99 TO BE WON

The Times Interactive Team Football, in association with BBC Consumer Publishing, is giving ITF players the chance to win one of 100 *They Think It's All Over* — No Holds Barred videos in our exclusive competition.

This particular edition of the hit show contains entirely new material made exclusively for this release and has not been broadcast for television.

Hosted by Nick Hancock, David Gower and Lee Hurst lock horns with Gary Lineker and Rory McGrath. Special guests are Olympic silver medal-winner Roger Black and *Men Behaving Badly*'s Neil Morrissey.

The first ten winners will receive a copy signed by the *They Think It's All Over* team.

The video costs £14.99 and is available from all major high street stores and video shops.



THIS SPECIAL EDITION WILL NEVER BE SEEN ON TV.

HOW TO ENTER

Send your answer to the question below on a card or the back of a sealed envelope, with your ITF PIN number, to: *The Times ITF Video Competition*, PO Box 8353, London SE17 7ZH. Winners will be selected at random from all correct entries received by first post Monday, December 9, 1996. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.

Q. On which TV channel does *They Think It's All Over* appear?

CHANGING TIMES

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

You may make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). Call the 0891 884 643 line during the times given. From outside the United Kingdom, you must call 0044 990 200 668.

You may only make transfers in one team per telephone call. If you have entered two teams and want to make transfers in both, you must make two separate calls.

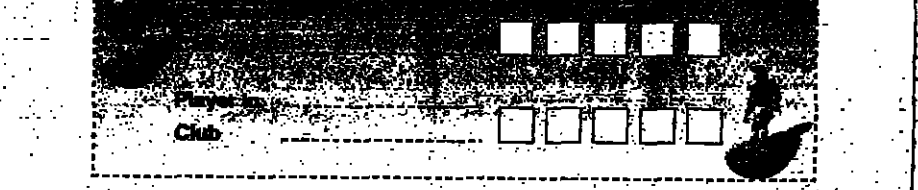
You may transfer two (but no more than two) individuals (two players or one player and a manager) during a transfer week. A player being transferred out must be replaced by one from the same category and you must keep to the team format of a goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, four midfield players, two strikers and a manager. You must not exceed the £25 million budget and have no more than two individuals from the same club. Incorrect transfers will be rejected and your team will remain in its previous form.

The transfer week runs from 00.01 on Tuesday to midnight the following Monday. Transfers made before noon each day will become effective immediately. Transfers made after noon will become effective for matches played after noon on the following day.

Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You must adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

Calls will be charged at 45p per minute cheap rate, 50p per minute at other times. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.



THIS WEEK'S TRANSFERS

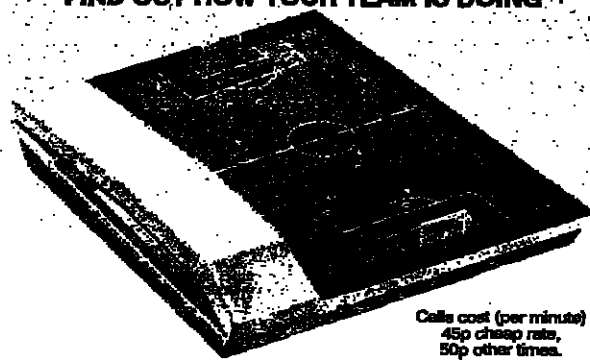
OUT	IN
32063... Jason Kerrigan	Derby County 00.25m
32064... Jason Cundy	Tottenham Hotspur 00.50m
42002... Neil Henny	Southampton 01.00m
52004... Frankie Bennett	Southampton 00.25m

LOANED PLAYERS
D Wessell (Derby to Manchester City, two weeks); T Wright (Nottingham Forest to Reading, one week); R van der Laan (Derby to Wolverhampton, two weeks); R Ford (West Ham to Burnham, one week); J Swales (Sheffield Wednesday to Bolton, two weeks); G Peacock (Chelsea to Queens Park Rangers, three weeks); M Stan (Chelsea to Stoke, three weeks); D Kerslake (Tottenham to Swindon, three weeks); T Cooke (Manchester United to Birmingham, four weeks); P Tisdale (Southampton to Huddersfield, four weeks). Loan periods subject to fluctuation.

THE LEADING INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
1	John Hunt Taunton D	(J Hunt)	291
2	Sophie And Sam	(G Foster)	283
3	John Hunt Taunton H	(J Hunt)	279
4	John Hunt Taunton F	(J Hunt)	275
5	Purple Rain	(S Gohls)	272
6	John Hunt Taunton E	(M Jones)	270
7	James Boys Three	(K Booth)	268
8	Scholes For Goals	(P Mills)	267
9	Storm	(A Burton)	267
10	Skyforest	(A Lorne)	266
11	Gargaters	(J Stachowicz)	264
12	Orlando Classic	(V Cow)	263
13	PJ Thistle	(R Newbould)	261
14	A2	(K Farhall)	261
15	James Boys 8	(M Jones)	260
16	Mean Machine	(P Ford)	260
17	NSF Monstons	(J Stachowicz)	260
18	Daggers	(V Cow)	260
19	Rigby's Rovers	(A Rigby)	259
20	Noah's Ark	(G P Dolan)	258
21	Nobby 33	(J Brown)	258
22	Beak's Team	(B Howes)	257
23	John Hunt Taunton C	(J Hunt)	257
24	Inter The Stand	(M Ward)	257
25	Tully's Tops	(D Tully)	256
26	Raj Is Back To Kill	(R Gohls)	256
27	Raj Is Back To Kill	(J Hunt)	256
28	Raj Is Back To Kill	(R Gohls)	256
29	Team C	(A Lorne)	254
30	Nobby 4	(J Brown)	254
31	Raj Is Back To Kill	(J Gohls)	254
32	Hull Red Devils	(G Foster)	251
33	AB 4	(A Boyland)	249
34	La Bouffesters	(J Brown)	248
35	Nobby 5	(J Brown)	247
36	Inter The Pub	(M Ward)	247
37	It's About Revenge C	(R Gohls)	247
38	Beasties Celtic	(S McGovern)	247
39	Nobby	(J Brown)	247
40	The Dansters	(C C Veners)	247
41	Bubwith Utd 5	(M Lacombe)	246
42	A	(M Corless)	246
43	Dour Rangers 3	(I Clayton)	246
44	Radnapp's Rovers	(S Emson)	246
45	Robbie Raiders	(M Handley)	245
46	Raj Is Back To Kill	(R Gohls)	245
47	Claremont Loyal	(B Fox)	244
48	Bob's Boys 2	(R Calder)	244
49	ABC	(M Baker)	244
50	Leeds's Legmen	(A Richards)	244
51	Polly's Pride	(P Smylie)	244
52	JS August Monthly 1	(J Swirles)	244
53	Team A	(A Lorne)	243
54	God's Allrounders 2	(S A Goddard)	243
55	Set Against Cys	(S Shipley)	242
56	Pin Up Two	(P Tustler)	241
57	Aldeburgh Villa	(M Jones)	241
58	Bob's Boys XI	(P Baker)	241
59	Inter The Waller	(M Ward)	240
60	Hove Rovers 3	(N Goddard)	240
61	Xpat Missiles	(M Jackson)	240
62	FC Pinta	(J Mullock)	239
63	Bad Three Boys	(R Crook)	239
64	JS August Monthly 2	(J Swirles)	239
65	Art's Allstars	(G Wiles)	239
66	Breathless United	(G Wiles)	239
67	Mars FC	(M Baker)	239
68	Kingsbury Tn 1	(D F King)	239
69	Lynston's Lions 7	(R Layton)	238
70	Nomads	(N Brown)	238

FIND OUT HOW YOUR TEAM IS DOING



Call the ITF hotline on 0891 884 643. Outside UK 44 990 200 668.

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
80	Bubwith Utd 3	(M Lacombe)	238
81	Raj Is Back To Kill	(R Gohls)	238
82	Daf Con 3	(M Pack)	238
83	Clive From Down Under	(K James)	238
84	Bow Utd	(K J Burns)	238
85	Nobby 11	(J Brown)	238
86	Nunchalant AFC 3	(R J Ward)	237
87	T 35	(T Besaran)	237
88	Alrdr	(M Corless)	237
89	The Tomsters	(I Fyfe)	237
90	The Red Devils	(K Booth)	236
91	1970 Jr FC	(J Ross)	236
92	Gestalt	(R Cooke)	236
93	12 Angry Men	(R Braucher)	236
94	Shrew Mole	(M McGovern)	235
95	March Pass	(K J Burns)	235
96	1st Elf	(M Jones)	235
97	Sky Rockets	(K Farhall)	235
98	James Boys One	(M L Jones)	234
99	Porcelain Gods	(P Ryan)	234
100	Janey's Skates	(D S Miles)	234
101	Ziggy's Boys	(Z Ahmed)	234
102	Sky Times III	(L McCutough)	234
103	Concrete Bananas	(S Mingle)	234
104	Nobby 20	(J Brown)	234
105	Rugulage	(S Berchfield)	233
106	Clan Ruffies	(S Watson)	233
107	Bonky Boys	(R Crook)	233
108	Pamela Anderson	(P Handley)	233
109	Islands	(B Wells)	233
110	Clover Vale	(N Easright)	233
111	The Passion	(N Easright)	233
112	Ervergreen On Jodis F	(N Easright)	233
113	Abdul's Revenge	(D Ritchie)	233
114	Lynston's Lions	(I Loomard)	233
115	Pacific All Star	(I Loomard)	233
116	Hart Kart XI	(K Kart)	233
117	Warped XI	(D McLean)	233
118	Northwood XI	(S Mullaney)	232
119	China Castle	(B Gohls)	232

Pos Team (Player's name) Pts

110	Jan 2	(J Clayton)	232
111	The Big Men	(K Booth)	232
112	Inter The Sin	(M Ward)	232
113	Toto Calcio	(A Dey)	232
114	Edmo Utd	(D Edmondson)	232
115	Dynamo Hills	(S Miller)	232
116	Nobby 22	(J Brown)	232
117	Alban Harris XI	(A Hynes)	231
118	Raymond Faust	(P Foster)	231
119	G Mowsey FC	(G Samuels)	231
120	Acce's High	(N Avery)	231
121	Real Ale Rips	(C Blackshaw)	231
122	Thom Footiey FC	(M Horan)	231
123	Wherry's Reg Gons?	(J McCallion)	231
124	Antares	(L Clark)	231
125	Nobby 21	(J Brown)	231
126	Wether's Wanderers	(D Wetherall)	231
127	PT's Top Team	(T Tidmarsh)	230
128	Irwin's Best	(L Sampson)	230
129	No Middlefield	(M Kingdon)	230
130	Ferdon United	(E Cowen)	230
131	Motley Team	(K McGuire)	230
132	Flying Foreigners	(D Thomas)	230
133	The Bobby Eggs	(I Goodman)	230
134	Red Star Beguine	(R Newman)	230
135	Athletic Storm	(P Mills)	229
136	The Miracles	(D Booth)	229
137	Fortuna Sandwich	(A J Rakel)	229
138	Alice	(I Pigeon)	229
139	4 4 2	(K Browne)	229
140	T 20	(T Easright)	229
141	Trouble Shooters	(R Pitt)	229
142	Jane's Giants	(J Longton)	229
143	Plastic Pipers 10	(T Feenly)	229
144	Granny's Gringos	(G F Peasey)	229
145	Turner's Wanderers	(M McCallion)	229
146	Turkey United	(O Asha)	229
147	Turner's Earners 2	(P Turner)	229
148	AS	(K Farhall)	229
149	Dear Old Things	(J Saunders)	229
150	Central Athletic	(N Slippin)	229
151	AC Fantasy FC	(M Slippin)	229
152	Das Boot	(D A Sutton)	229
153	Im's B Team	(W Donaldson)	229
154	Jason's Boys Four	(J Gearing)	229
155	ST Utd	(M O'Brien)	229
156	No Middlefield	(J Brown)	229
157	The Premier Dream	(D Lee)	229
158	AC Cambridge	(C J Eldred)	229
159	Barry's Team	(S Matthews)	229
160	Botat United 1	(J Pull)	229
161	Turner's Earners 5	(P Turner)	229
162	Nobby 7	(J Brown)	229
163	Nobby 34	(J Brown)	229
164	Gems	(A Misk)	229
165	Turner's Tigers	(C Turner)	229
166	Chalm City 89	(C Scarle)	229
167	The Great Dane	(K Booth)	229
168	Top Tan	(P Bailey)	229
169	Joddy	(P Follen)	229
170	Hopetide Hotshots	(R Turner)	229
171	Priority Rangers	(J Palmer)	229
172	Raj Is Back To Kill	(R Gohls)	229

The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	0	-3
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.50	-5	+1
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	0	+27
10202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.75	0	0
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal	0.75	-1	-10
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.50	0	+1
10401	T Flowers	Aston Villa	1.00	+5	+9
10402	S Given	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-4	-18
10501	G Marshall	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	0
10601	D Kharine	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	-1
10602	K Hiltchcock	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+10	+10
10701	S Ogrizovic	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	-20
10702	M Tait	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	-3	-18
10801	R Taylor	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	0
10802	R Hout	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	-1	-7
10901	A Maczwell	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	+4
10902	L Key	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	-1	-10
11001	I Westwater	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	-1	-10
11101	N Southall	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	-5	-6
11102	P Gerrard	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+1
11201	G Rousset	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	-3	-9
11301	J Leighton	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	+5	+4
11401	D Lekovic	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	-25	-25
11501	M Beesley	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0	0
11502	P Evans	Blackburn Rovers	0.25	0	0
11601	N Martyn	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+5	-1
11602	A Poole	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	-6
11603	K Keller	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	-5	-10
11701	D James	Blackburn Rovers	5.00	0	+8
11702	A Warner	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	0
11801	P Schmeichel	Blackburn Rovers	5.00	-1	-12
11802	R van der Gouw	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	+5
11901	G Wright	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	-1	-7
11902	A Miller	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	-3	-20
12001	S Howie	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	-3	-20
12101	S Hlop	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	0	-3
12102	P Smieck	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-3	0
12201	M Crossley	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	-4	-28
12202	A Fottis	Blackburn Rovers	0.75	0	0
12203	S Wright	Blackburn Rovers	0.75	0	0
12301	S Thomson	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	+5	-19
12401	A Goram	Blackburn Rovers	5.00	+5	+24
12501	K Pressman	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	+5	0
12601	D Seasant	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	-10	-10
12602	N Moss	Blackburn Rovers	0.25	0	+2
12603	C Woods	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	-3	-19
12701	L Perez	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	0
12702	A Cotton	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	+9
12801	I Walker	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	+15
12901	L Midosko	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	+5	-10
12902	S Mautone	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	+5
13001	N Sullivan	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	+5	+8
13002	P Head	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	0

20101	S McKimmie	Aberdeen	2.00	-2	+10
20201	L Dixon	Aberdeen	3.00	+2	+21
20202	N Winterburn	Aberdeen	3.00	0	+18
20203	S Morrow	Aberdeen	1.00	0	+4
20301	S Staunton	Aberdeen	3.00	+4	+17
20302	A Wright	Aberdeen	3.00	+3	+20
20303	G Charles	Aberdeen	2.50	0	0
20401	P King	Aberdeen	0.25	0	0
20402	H Nelson	Aberdeen	3.00	+4	+16
20403	F Berg	Aberdeen	3.00	-1	-3
20404	G Le Saux	Aberdeen	3.00	-1	-2
20501	J McNamara	Aberdeen	1.50	0	+2
20502	T McKinnay	Aberdeen	3.00	-1	-7
20503	P Petrus	Aberdeen	3.00	-1	-7
20601	S Clarke	Aberdeen	2.00	-1	-2
20602	T Phelan	Aberdeen	2.00	0	0
20603	S Minto	Aberdeen	1.00	-1	-4
20701	D Burrows	Aberdeen	1.50	0	-7
20702	B Burrows	Aberdeen	1.00	-4	-4
20703	M Hall	Aberdeen	1.00	-4	-4
20704	R Sena	Aberdeen	1.50	0	-2
20801	C Powell	Aberdeen	1.00	0	+5
20802	D Yates	Aberdeen	1.00	0	+2
20803	J Kavanagh	Aberdeen	0.25	0	0
20804	P Parker	Aberdeen	1.00	0	+4
20901	M Malpas	Aberdeen	1.00	0	+8
20902	M Perry	Aberdeen	0.50	-1	-2
20903	N Duffy	Aberdeen	0.50	0	+3
21001	C Miller	Aberdeen	0.25	-6	-6
21002	T Doherty	Aberdeen	0.25	0	-5
21101	M Hottiger	Aberdeen	2.50	0	0
21102	A Hinchcliffe	Aberdeen	2.00	-1	-10
21103	E Barrett	Aberdeen	1.50	-2	-9
21104	M Jackson	Aberdeen	1.00	0	0
21201	G Locke	Aberdeen	2.00	0	0
21202	N Pointon	Aberdeen	1.00	-3	-4
21301	S Wilson	Aberdeen	1.00	+4	+4
21302	A Dow	Aberdeen	1.00	+4	+16
21401	G MacPherson	Aberdeen	0.50	0	-13
21501	G Kelly	Aberdeen	3.00	+3	+10
21502	A Dorio	Aberdeen	2.50	0	-1
21503	P Beasley	Aberdeen	0.50	+3	+6
21601	M Whitlow	Aberdeen	0.50	0	+6
21602	P Grayson	Aberdeen	1.50	0	+4
21603	N Lee	Aberdeen	0.50	-2	-2
21604	F Rolling	Aberdeen	0.25	0	0
21701	R Jones	Aberdeen	3.00	0	0
21702	S Harkness	Aberdeen	1.50	0	0
21703	S I Bjornelys	Aberdeen	0.50	0	+18
21704	P Chernock	Aberdeen	0.50	0	0
21801	D Innes	Aberdeen	4.00	0	+13
21802	G Neville	Aberdeen	3.00	0	+9
21803	P Neville	Aberdeen	3.00	0	0
21901	N Cox	Aberdeen	2.50	-2	-10
21902	C Morris	Aberdeen	1.50	0	0
21903	C Fleming	Aberdeen	0.75	-1	-1
21904	S Blackmore	Aberdeen	0.50	0	0
22001	S McMillan	Aberdeen	0.50	-1	-1
22101	W Barton	Aberdeen	3.00	0	-1
22102	S Watson	Aberdeen	3.00	0	+10
22103	R Elliott	Aberdeen	2.50	-1	-1
22104	J Beresford	Aberdeen	2.50	0	+7
22201	S Pearce	Aberdeen	4.00	+1	-1
22202	D Lytle	Aberdeen	2.00	-1	-3
22203	A I Hasland	Aberdeen	1.00	-1	0
22204	N Jerkan	Aberdeen	2.00	0	+1
22301	P Bonar	Aberdeen	0.75	0	-8
22302	D Kirkwood	Aberdeen	0.50	-5	-5
22401	D Robertson	Aberdeen	2.50	+6	+6
22402	J Brown	Aberdeen	1.50	+1	+8
22501	I Nolan	Aberdeen	1.50	+4	+15
22502	P Atherton	Aberdeen	1.00	+1	-4
22503	S Nicol	Aberdeen	1.00	0	+2
22504	D Stancovic	Aberdeen	1.00	0	+2
22505	L Briscoe	Aberdeen	0.50	0	0
22601	J Dodd	Aberdeen	1.50	-1	-4
22602	F Benali	Aberdeen	0.75	-1	-6
22603	S Charlton	Aberdeen	0.75	-1	-3
22701	D Kubicki	Aberdeen	0.50	-1	-6
22702	M Scott	Aberdeen	0.25	0	-1
22703	G Hall	Aberdeen	2.00	0	0
22801	D Austin	Aberdeen	2.00	0	+20
22802	C Wilson	Aberdeen	1.00	0	+13
22803	J Edinburgh	Aberdeen	0.50	0	0
22804	D Kerslake	Aberdeen	0.50	0	0
22901	S Carr	Aberdeen	1.00	0	+1
22902	J Dicks	Aberdeen	4.00	+4	+11
22903	T Breacker	Aberdeen	1.00	+4	+4
22904	K Rowland	Aberdeen	1.00	+4	+3
22905	M Bowen	Aberdeen	1.00	0	+5
22906	B Brown	Aberdeen	0.50	0	+4
23001	B Thatcher	Aberdeen	0.75	+4	+4
23002	A Kimble	Aberdeen	0.75	+3	+12
23003	K Cunningham	Aberdeen	0.75	0	0
23004	D Jupp	Aberdeen	0.25	0	0
23005	C Perry	Aberdeen	0.25	+4	+17

30101	B Irvine	Aberdeen	2.00	-2	+9
30102	C Woodthorpe	Aberdeen	1.50	0	-3
30201	A Adams	Aberdeen	4.00	-4	-14
30202	S Bould	Aberdeen	3.00	0	+20
30203	M Keown	Aberdeen	3.00	-1	-20
30204	A Linighan	Aberdeen	1.00	0	0
30205	S Marshall	Aberdeen	3.50	0	+16
30301	G Southgate	Aberdeen	3.00	+4	+22
30302	U Ehogu	Aberdeen	1.00	0	-9
30304	C Tiler	Aberdeen	1.00	0	-9



Rush scored his first goal for Leeds United on Sunday. But was it too late for too many ITF selectors?

					W. O.
30305	R Schmeica	Aston Villa	1.00	+4	+5
30401	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	-1	-1
30402	J Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	0
30403	C Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	-3
30404	N Marter	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	+2
30501	T Boyd	Celtic	3.00	-1	-11
30502	M MacKay	Celtic	1.50	0	+3
30503	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.50	-1	+9
30504	B O'Neill	Celtic	3.00	+1	+1
30601	M Dubeur	Celtic	2.50	-1	-4
30602	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	2.50	-2	-14
30603	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0	0
30604	D Lee	Chelsea	2.00	0	+3
30605	A Myers	Chelsea	1.50	0	+8
30606	E Johnson	Chelsea	1.50	0	+10
30607	J Kjeldberg	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
30701	L Daleh	Coventry City	2.00	-1	-1
30702	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	-2	0
30801	I Strmca	Derby County	2.50	-1	-2
30802	D Wessall	Derby County	1.00	0	0
30803	P McGrath	Derby County	2.50	0	+2
30804	J Laursen	Derby County	1.00	0	+7
30901	M Carson	Derby County	0.50	0	0
30902	S Pressley	Dundee United	1.00	0	+8
31001	M Miller	Dundee United	0.75	0	-4
31002	I Den Bieman	Dundee United	0.75	0	-7
31101	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	-1	-1
31102	D Watson	Everton	2.50	-2	-3
31103	C Short	Everton	2.00	-1	-9
31201	D McPherson	Hibernian	1.00	0	+8
31202	P Ritchie	Hibernian	1.00	-1	-12
31301	J McLaughlin	Hibernian	0.50	0	-4
31302	B Welsh	Hibernian	0.75	0	+9
31303	G Hunter	Hibernian	0.50	+4	+11
31401	M Reilly	Kilmarnock	0.75	0	-5
31402	R McGovern	Kilmarnock	0.75	0	-5
31501	D Wetherall	Leeds United	2.50	+4	+11
31502	R Johnson	Leeds United	1.00	0	+2
31503	L Radebe	Leeds United	1.00	+4	+4
31504	J Pemberton	Leeds United	0.50	0	0
31601	S Walsh	Leeds United	1.00	0	+8
31602	J Watts	Leeds United	1.00	-2	-9
31603	P Doherty	Leeds United	0.50	0	0
31604	S Prior	Leeds United	1.00	-2	-3
31701	P Babb	Liverpool	3.50	0	+10
31702	J Soares	Liverpool	3.50	0	0
31703	M Wright	Liverpool	3.50	0	+11
31704	N Ruddock	Liverpool	3.50	0	+7
31705	D McCall	Liverpool	1.00	0	+14
31801	G Palfrey	Manchester United	3.00	0	+1
31802	D Wetherall	Manchester United	3.00	0	+1
31803	R Johnson	Manchester United	2.50	0	+11
31901	N Pearson	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-9
31902	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-7
31903	D Whyte	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-11
31904	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	-4
32001	B Martin	Motherwell	0.75	0	-1
32002	M van der Gaag	Motherwell	0.75	0	+11
32101	P Albert	Newcastle United	4.50	-1	-7
32102	S Howey	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+7
32103	D Peacock	Newcastle United	3.00	-2	-10
32201	C Cooper	Nottingham Forest	3.00	+2	+4
32202	S Chettle	Nottingham Forest	2.50	-1	-2
32203	S Blatherwick	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	-19
32301	S Dennis	Raith Rovers	1.00	0	-19
32401	R Gough	Rangers	3.50	+4	+28
32402	A McLaren	Rangers	3.00	0	0
32403	J Bjornlund	Rangers	3.50	+1	+17
32404	G Petric	Rangers	2.50	+4	+14
32501	V Newsome	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	+4	+13
32502	D Walker	Sheffield Wednesday	0.25	0	0
32503	B Linighan	Sheffield Wednesday	0.25	0	0
32601	K Monkou	Southampton	1.50	-2	-13
32602	A Neilson	Southampton	1.00	0	-2
32603	R Dryden	Southampton	0.50	-1	-1
32604	C Lundekvam	Southampton	0.50	-1	-7
32605	W van Gabbel	Southampton	3.00	-1	-5
32701	A Melville	Sunderland	1.00	0	+13
32702	K Ball	Sunderland	1.00	-1	-10
32703	R Ord	Sunderland	0.50	+12	+2
32801	S Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+20
32902	C Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+18
32903	S Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	0
32904	J Cundy	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
32905	K Scott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
32906	S Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	-3
32901	S Bilic	West Ham United	2.50	+4	+7
32902	M Ripper	West Ham United	2.50	+4	+7
32903	S Potts	West Ham United	2.50	0	-2
32904	W Hargreaves	West Ham United	1.50	0	0
32905	R Ferdinand	West Ham United	0.50	0	0
33001	A Reeves	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0
33003	A Pearce	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
33004	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	0.50	+4	+4
33005	B McAllister	Wimbledon	0.50	+12	+2
33006	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.25	0	0

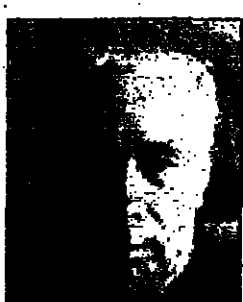
EL AGENT

POSTCODE _____

INSIDE
SECTION
2
TODAY



LAW
Blasphemy
and freedom
of expression
PAGE 39



ARTS
Howard Hodgkin
on why he can't
explain his art
PAGES 44-46



SPORT
Zimbabwe left to
puzzle England
selectors' hiccup
PAGES 47-52

**TELEVISION
AND
RADIO**
PAGES
50, 51

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY DECEMBER 3 1996

Exporters squeezed as pound hits 3-year high

By JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

STERLING jumped to its highest level against the mark for nearly three years even as the first evidence emerged that British manufacturers are beginning to suffer from the pound's strength.

The pound gained more than 1½ pence to hit a high of DM2.6002, its best level since February 1994. It also appreciated about half a cent against the dollar, nearly reaching peak levels last seen in October 1992 just after sterling was forced to leave the European exchange-rate mechanism. On its effective index against a basket of currencies, the pound closed sharply higher at 94.5 from

94.0 on Friday. Reports that the pound is starting to affect exports negatively — but also exert a useful downward pressure on prices — came from the Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply, which released its latest purchasing managers' survey.

Overall, the survey showed manufacturing industry expanding for the sixth month running, but recovery remains slow. Output grew in November, but the rate of growth was down slightly. The Purchasing Managers' Index fell to 54.4 from 54.5 in October.

Orders accelerated, driven by stronger demand for consumer goods and components. Export orders continued to grow, but the institute said sterling's was reported to have reduced some sales.

The institute said: "The survey found evidence that the recent rise of sterling has had an impact on new orders from overseas. However, any fall in overseas demand was easily outweighed by the healthy state of orders from domestic markets, with con-

Anatole Kaletsky 16
Softly, softly 31

sumer goods firms still very much at the forefront of growth."

Encouragingly, the pound affected prices paid for raw materials. Prices, which had shown signs of picking up between August

and October, fell again in November. "The recent increase in deflationary pressures was almost entirely a result of the stronger pound making imported inputs cheaper in sterling terms," the institute said.

At the margin, yesterday's survey may help the Chancellor to fend off any Bank of England demands for higher base rates at the next monetary meeting on December 11. However, the Bank was also given ammunition with yesterday's news of rapid growth in M0 narrow money supply in November. The Bank said M0 grew by a seasonally adjusted 7.5 per cent in November which equals this year's peak growth rates in June and August and is the highest since December 1988. Although the relationship

between M0 and retail sales has not been close in recent years, it will still be taken as a warning of a pick-up in consumer spending.

Sterling's strength was not the only highlight in the foreign exchanges. The dollar jumped to six-week highs against the mark, profiting from a strong American purchasing managers' survey as well as comments by Omar Issing, Bundesbank chief economist. He said investors may well switch to dollar assets at the onset of European monetary union. Both the dollar and sterling have profited from weakness in the mark and other currencies expected to join a single currency. The dollar ended in Europe at about DM1.5437 compared with DM1.5320 late on Friday.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET		
FTSE 100	4038.5	(-19.5)
Yield	3.85%	
FTSE All share	1275.08	(-8.28)
Nikkei	20574.88	(-345.67)
New York		
Dow Jones	6886.30	(-35.40)
S&P Composite	752.98	(-4.04)

US RATE		
Federal Funds	5.50%	(8.50%)
Long Bond	10.75%	(10.75%)
Yield	6.38%	(6.37%)

LONDON MONEY		
3-month interbank	6.75%	(6.75%)
Life long gilt	112	(111.75)

STERLING		
New York	1.6837*	(1.6823)
London		
\$	1.6847	(1.6803)
DM	2.6002	(2.6002)
FF	6.6177	(6.7756)
SP	2.2131	(2.1883)
Yen	191.88	(191.21)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.5437*	(1.5375)
FF	1.2350	(1.2328)
SP	1.3149	(1.3032)
Yen	113.79*	(113.67)
S index	54.4	(54.5)

DOLLAR		

Top firms elect fewer women directors

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

FEWER women are being elected to the boards of Britain's biggest companies, even in businesses overtly favourable to women, the leading organisation for women in business has acknowledged.

The fall is a blow to leaders of the Opportunity 2000, Business in the Community campaign, which yesterday marked the fifth anniversary of its launch by the Prime Minister.

Campaign leaders acknowledged that even in organisations that are members of the Opportunity 2000 initiative the proportion of women directors fell in 1996, from 16 per cent to 11 per cent. But they said this followed a doubling of the level in the 12 months to October 1995.

The representation of women on company boards generally remained steady at about 3.3 per cent, research published yesterday by Opportunity 2000 showed. The proportion of women in management overall was also stable, with 31 per cent of managers in Opportunity 2000 organisations now women, against about 12 per cent in management generally.

Confirming a new push to take the campaign for greater employment opportunities for women in business into the small firms sector, the campaign's leaders said that 80 per cent of the UK's top businesses were now Opportunity 2000 members. Increasingly, companies viewed their involvement as a "bottom-line issue" that produced direct financial benefits for the company, and social and employment benefits for the men and women within it, they added.

Campaign leaders said that economic and employment demographics, including women making up 65 per cent of new employees by 2000, meant that women of working age had become the most dynamic component of the European job market.

Lady Howe of Aberavon, the campaign's chairman, said that Opportunity 2000 was increasingly being seen by employers and employees as a British success story. But she argued against complacency.

Columbia Pictures, the Hollywood film studio, has appointed Amy Pascal, a 38-year-old Hollywood veteran, as its new president. The appointment is the latest move by Sony, its owner, to clear up the management turmoil in its US entertainment arm. Ms Pascal is moving from Turner Pictures, where her job as president of the company was to oversee the merger between Turner and Time Warner. She worked at Columbia for several years before going to Turner.



Lady Howe, left, chairman of Opportunity 2000, and Liz Bargh, director, publicising the campaign yesterday

Civil servants' leaders vote for MSF merger

By Our Industrial Editor

BRITAIN'S main white-collar trade union for private-sector employees looks set to expand extensively into the public sector after leaders of the professional civil servants' union voted for a merger.

The move could be one of the most significant trade union mergers in recent years. It could run into considerable opposition from the membership of the civil servants' union, from other unions in the Civil Service and from the Government.

Leaders of the Institution of Professional, Managers and Specialists, which represents more than 70,000 professional staff in the Civil Service and privatised concerns, decided at the weekend to seek a full merger with the Manufacturing, Science and Finance union, which represents more

than half a million general technical staff.

After failing to draw together a range of smaller white-collar unions into a full federation, the IPMS had been examining merger proposals from a number of unions.

At a special meeting of the union's executive in Eastbourne, the leadership voted 155 for MSF, and against merging with the PTC civil servants' union. Five others voted for the status quo.

Some activists in the non-political IPMS will oppose a merger with the MSF, which has roots in hard-left union activism, though the union has, in recent years, taken a much more mainstream line under Roger Lyons, its general secretary. Any merger would have to be approved by a ballot of IPMS members.

Other unions organising in

the Civil Service — especially the middle-ranking PTC — will be unhappy about the proposed merger, which may well prompt membership poaching by other unions.

Government bargaining units with which the IPMS negotiates — including defence establishments — may also be uneasy about the move, although IPMS leaders believe that a possible change of government at the election is likely to preclude significant changes in union recognition arrangements if the MSF moves into the Civil Service.

MSF leaders will welcome the IPMS executive's vote. They believe merger would give them a platform in key areas of the public sector, and boost the organisation of the MSF, which has recently emerged from financial difficulties.

Investors back Emap expulsion of directors

By Oliver August and Frank Le Duc

EMAP shareholders have voted to rebel non-executive directors off the board by a 9-1 majority after months of dispute over changes in the articles of association.

Sir John Hoskyns, chairman, said that he could no longer work with Joe Cooke and Ken Simmonds because the mutual trust between them had broken down since the annual meeting in July, when the two directors voted against a rule change that allows the board to remove directors by a 75 per cent majority vote.

Sir John told a special meeting that there were no immediate plans to replace Mr Cooke and Mr Simmonds, but people would be interviewed with a view to replacing them to stand down next year.

Several institutional investors that backed the removal are understood to have done so on condition that Mr Cooke and Mr Simmonds be replaced. Sir John said he would prefer non-executive directors to be reduced by two permanently.

Sir John had assured shareholders in July that the new rules were not being introduced to remove the rebels, but, after further clashes, the board excluded the rebels and then moved to expel them.

Mr Cooke, who called for Sir John's resignation, suggested that the changes had been instigated by Robin Miller, chief executive.

MAM sells Swiss bank for £113m

MERCURY ASSET MANAGEMENT, the UK's biggest independent fund manager, has sold Mercury Bank, its Swiss private banking subsidiary, for about £113 million. The sale, to the Swiss private banking arm of Safra Holdings, the US company, is in keeping with Mercury's strategy of concentrating on its core business of fund management.

Hugh Stevenson, MAM chairman, said: "We are delighted with the terms of the transaction. Throughout the sale discussions, we have been anxious to ensure the best interests of Mercury Bank's clients are safeguarded." The company said it did not plan any further disposals immediately. Mercury Asset Management will spend the proceeds of the sale on buying fixed interest securities. Mercury Bank contributed £8.9 million of the total £140.4 million profits made by MAM for the year ending March 31, 1996.

Celsis pioneers test

CELSIS INTERNATIONAL, the microbial diagnostics company, has launched a rapid-detection test for the E. coli O157 bacterium, which was responsible for the food-poisoning outbreak in Leamington. The outbreak has so far claimed five lives and more than 50 victims are in hospital across Central Scotland. The test uses a dipstick and works as simply as a home-pregnancy test, Celsis said, and will confirm the presence of E. coli within minutes as opposed to the hours or even days required by some other techniques.

Young buys Madison

YOUNG, the marketing and distribution group, has agreed to buy Madison, the bicycle parts distributor, for £6.86 million in cash and shares. The company, which last made an acquisition two years ago, is funding the deal with a £5.78 million placing and open offer, and the rest through borrowings. In the year to September 30, Young's pre-tax profits were £2.62 million (£2.01 million) with earnings of 11.6p a share (8.9p). A final dividend of 2.9p makes a total of 4.2p (3.9p) and is due January 31.

BTP warning on pound

BTP, the speciality chemicals company, gave warning yesterday that the strength of sterling could wipe up to £2 million from its profits by the end of the year. But Stephen Hannam, chief executive, said the loss would be on paper. BTP, which earns 70 per cent of its profits from overseas, returned pre-tax profits 13 per cent ahead, at £23.7 million, for the six months to September 30. Earnings were 9.91p (9.07p); an interim dividend of 4.05p (3.85p) is due on February 10. The shares fell 7p yesterday, to 305½p.

Kenwood bid backing

THE UK Active Value Fund, holder of a 9 per cent stake in Kenwood, stepped up its pressure on the household appliance company's management yesterday, urging its board to give proper consideration to a reported informal bid approach by Pifco, a fellow manufacturer of domestic appliances. Kenwood shares rose 13p to 233½p yesterday. The company is due to report half-year results today. Kenwood is currently capitalised at around £107 million.

Acal interim higher

ACAL, the electronics company, increased pre-tax profits to £4.65 million from £4.45 million in the six months to September 30. Earnings per share rose to 14.2p from 13p and the interim dividend was lifted from 2.75p to 3.16p. John Curry, chairman, said Acac's "traditional agency business in electronic components, systems and industrial controls saw sales and profit growth in the first half. The PC parts unit performed unsatisfactorily, but problems had now been resolved."

Croda profits ahead

CRODA INTERNATIONAL, the chemicals company, said provisional figures for the third quarter showed a 35 per cent rise in pre-tax profits on sales that were 9 per cent higher. It said demand levels and new products gave the company optimism but sterling's strength could threaten export margins. Michael Valentine, chairman, said improving demand and new products gave grounds for optimism but that if the current rates of exchange of sterling persisted, they would reduce export margins. The shares were unchanged at 336p.

Offer relents to phase in power switch

THE electricity industry regulator has bowed to pressure from electricity companies by agreeing to phase in competition for the household supply of electricity from April 1998 (Eric Reguly).

Professor Stephen Littlechild had suggested the industry was dragging its heels. The regional electricity companies said it would be difficult to enable all the country's 20 million households to choose their supplier by next April. Under Offer's new proposals, competition will begin on the same date but will be limited to an equivalent 10 per cent of total households. The second phase, covering an additional 3½ million customers, will begin two months later, while the third will begin at the end of July.

Sears in Freemans bid talks

By Sarah Cunningham

SEARS, the retailing group, confirmed yesterday that it is in talks with a number of companies interested in acquiring its Freemans mail order business.

Liam Strong, Sears' chief executive, is understood to be in preliminary discussions with at least four potential buyers. They are Littlewoods, the privately-owned pools and retailing company; Great Universal Stores, Britain's largest mail order company; N Brown, the smaller mail order specialist; and Otto Versand, the private German mail order giant and owner of Grattan. Freemans is expected to fetch £350-£400 million.

Sears, which also operates Selfridges, British Shoe and the Wallis and Warehouse fashion chains, said talks could end in "the divestment of the business or collaboration with a third party." The sale of Freemans, rather than the establishment of a joint venture, is considered the most likely.

GLS could meet regulatory problems if it tries to take over Freemans, because of its 30 per cent share of the UK mail order market. It would have to argue that regulators should concentrate on its relatively minor share of the UK retail market.

Pennington, page 29

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	2.15	1.90
Austria Sch	19.20	17.70
Belgium Fr	66.25	61.50
Canada \$	2.25	2.10
Cyprus Cyp	0.215	0.200
Denmark Kr	10.48	9.80
Finland Mk	5.93	5.50
France Fr	9.18	8.53
Germany Dm	2.74	2.53
Greece Dr	454	380
Hong Kong \$	13.53	12.83
Ireland P	1.20	1.00
Israel Sh	1.05	0.97
Italy Lira	5.77	5.12
Japan Yen	3684	3205
Malta	204.50	188.10
Netherlands Gld	0.844	0.780
New Zealand \$	3.054	2.804
Norway Kr	2.51	2.20
Portugal Esc	11.35	10.55
S Africa R	272.00	252.50
Spain Ptas	205.50	212.50
Sweden Kr	11.83	11.13
Switzerland Fr	2.35	2.15
Turkey Lira	179400	167400
USA \$	1.779	1.648

Notes: for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Have you calculated the real cost of airline loyalty schemes to your company?

travelling executives were choosing flights which earned maximum points rather than sticking to airlines offering the most economic flights

The Financial Times 7/10/96 (from MORI survey)

PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONSULTANTS/ARCHITECTS FOR

in QATAR

The "Special Projects Office" from Doha - Qatar is pleased to invite Consultants/Architects who are interested in pre-qualifying for the design of

"The Museum of Islamic Arts"

The pre-qualification documents can be collected during official working hours as follows:

- Date: from Nov. 30 - Dec. 15
- Address: Special Projects Office P.O. Box 4044 Doha - Qatar

International consulting firms operating outside Qatar can collect the pre-qualification documents through their respective embassies or their representatives in Qatar.

These consulting firms have to be licensed for providing architectural services, and are required to present the due registration and classification documents issued by the relevant authorities in their respective countries. To achieve pre-qualification the consultant should have direct experience in museum design, or be associated with a firm that has such background.

For inquiries please contact

"Special Projects Office"

P.O. Box 4044

Doha - Qatar

Tel. (974) 436978

fax. (974) 436977

E-Mail: mb132@qatar.net.qa

S&N's 26 rise cheer the brewer

Troubled Wicke to launch £50m

net names International Internet Name Registry

□ Lenders bet on no immediate rate rise □ Buyers circle around Freemans □ Order gap clobbers electronics shares

Truths shrouded by Abbey habit

TIME was when, on moving house, you could expect the estate agents to lie through their teeth, your vendor to swindle you and your fellow purchasers to gazump. But at least you could rely on your dull, slow, safe old building society.

No more, it seems. As the building societies become banks, so does their behaviour seem more — well, bank-like, and that is not intended as a compliment. Abbey National was painting its quarter-point rise as a bid to help starving investors, who in a low-inflation environment have had to put up with lousy returns on their savings. If a few million mortgage-holders have to pay more to correct this, then fair's fair.

Except that the Abbey's rise, and those of the other lenders that followed it, is more to do with widening margins and raising profits, because while home owners have to pay an extra quarter point on their mortgages, investors see average rises of 6.1 per cent, on the new rates to be announced on Thursday. The bank keeps the difference.

There is also an unreality about the quoted mortgage rates, because of the proliferation of special packages, low-start mortgages, cash-back offers and other gimmicks used to attract new borrowers. This means that those people moving house, or

prepared to move their loans, are being subsidised by those staying put, in their homes or at their existing lenders. So much for loyalty — the lenders now make their profits out of consumer ignorance and inertia.

Still, let us try to be positive. The move by the Abbey and its rivals suggests that the next rise in base rates may be some way off. The Halifax will certainly follow suit after the next meeting between Chancellor and Bank Governor a week tomorrow. The Abbey is assuming that the Chancellor will hold off from a further base rate rise; his Budget performance makes this a virtual certainty. Sensible City analysts, those not rushing around waiting for the sky to fall, expect a further quarter point on rates early in the spring, after the next inflation report, the first estimate of this quarter's GDP and some indication how Christmas retail sales went.

This will not damage the housing market, or threaten any reversal of the price rises so far and the 7 per cent rise for this year that the Halifax is shooting for today. Politically, mortgage

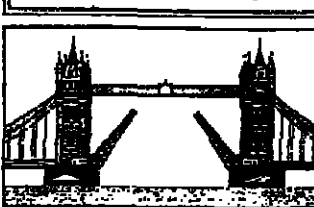
rates cannot rise too far before the election, because this would threaten the spring home-selling season and what "feel-good" factor there is around.

Come the election, and interest rates will have to rise. This is not meant as a party-political point, but they will rise fastest under a Labour Government determined to demonstrate its fiscal responsibility by heading advice from the Bank to raise them. Base rates have not been in double figures since 1992, and it would require a mismanagement of the economy beyond the abilities of the two main contenders to push them back there again.

Catalogue of aspirations

WELL-LEAKED reports of the auction for the Freemans mail order business, which could be under new ownership by Christmas, coincide with a study of why anyone should want to be in mail order in the first place, a business with a peculiar inability to shake off a cheap and tatty image despite heavy investment

PENNINGTON



Home shopping should have been one of the success stories of the 1990s. Those with money work longer hours, while retail innovations such as loyalty cards and proposed moves into banking throw up exactly the kind of consumer data needed by mail order operators to identify the right customers. Such "narrow-casting" is the key to home shopping, so saving on production and posting costs.

As Corporate Intelligence on Retailing, the specialist consultancy, says: "While the 1,000-page agency catalogues are often compared to department stores, there is still no equivalent of Harrods or Harvey Nichols in the mail order world." Mail order sales are being outpaced

by other forms of retailing, and the industry has to replace its traditional downmarket consumer base with more prosperous customers.

The consultancy says one way forward is collaboration between high street retailers and mail order companies. If so, then the traffic is currently in the other direction. The most likely purchasers for Freemans, from Liam Strong's troubled Sears, are Littlewoods and Germany's Otto Versand, already involved in downmarket mail order. By contrast, consider the widely-rumoured entry into home shopping by Marks & Spencer, and the potential of a clothing catalogue with the same customer loyalty M&S already enjoys.

Racal's fickle finger...

THERE is something distinctly odd, at first glance, about Racal Electronic's profit warning yesterday. On second glance, and all subsequent readings, too. Or perhaps it is just that fickle blue finger of fate, because Racal

is the second of the four owners of Camelot, the National Lottery operator, in less than a fortnight to have shocked the market with a profits warning. De La Rue lost 16 per cent of its value, and Racal saw a matching share collapse after identifying a previously unforeseen hole in the order book.

Let us examine the exact sequence of events. On Friday the Racal board was told, by whom it is not clear, that orders for radio communication gear would be about £30 million lower in the second half than in the corresponding period. Because of the margins the group enjoys, this would leave profits £20 million lower than the City had thought.

That orders shortfall is a huge chunk of the business of a division that turned over £160 million last year. It represents two or three lost contracts. But no one noticed until last Friday. The board then took the almost unprecedented move of putting out a profits warning three days before the interim figures. These were brought forward, but only by two days, to this morning. Asked why these could not

coincide with yesterday's warning, so allowing the City to ask all the necessary questions, the company could only witter on about "logistics".

The share price says it all. Racal shares are now below where they started the year, after a hefty jump in early summer. The company has since lost out on one big military contract, and another has been deferred. With such a lumpy orders performance, an erratic share price is the least investors can expect.

Judgment of peers

FAMILIARITY evidently breeds contempt for the Keswick family's Jardine Matheson octopus, whose oriental achievements impressed from afar for so long. In 1995, Trafalgar House, the most prominent British tentacle, was voted, in *Management Today*, the company least admired by its peers in rival boardrooms. After Trafalgar's rescue takeover by Kvaerner, the 260th and bottom spot inevitably went to Eurotunnel. How could it be otherwise? At 259, however, lurks Kwik Save, the fast-shrinking downmarket retailer that was supposed to be the other British jewel in the Keswick's crown. Only that same Liam Strong, at Sears, down from 131 to 257, is seriously trying to spare their blushes.

S&N's 26% rise cheers the brewers

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

BREWING shares leapt yesterday after Scottish & Newcastle unveiled a sparkling half-year performance.

The company reported a 26 per cent rise in pre-tax interim profits, to £195 million, well above City expectations. Turnover rose by 24 per cent, to £1.66 billion.

S&N shares rose 11p, to 650p, as analysts upgraded full-year profit forecasts by about £10 million, to £380 million. Other brewers gained from S&N's confident outlook, with Whitbread rising 2½p, to a new high of 769p, and Bass up 3p, to 786½p.

S&N increased profits in its brewing division by 67 per cent, to £90 million, including the first full six months from Courage. The company said that it suffered a small fall in total volumes, but a better mix had improved margins. John Smith's, its main bitter brand, increased sales by 17 per cent. Volumes of Kronenbourg, the

premium lager brand, rose 13 per cent.

Profits in the retail division rose 12 per cent, to £75 million, boosted by a 13 per cent rise in food sales. The company — which owns brands such as Rat & Parrot, Barras & Co and Chef & Brewer — added 160 new branded pubs during the period to a managed house estate now totalling 1,900.

Brian Stewart, chief executive, said that S&N was looking to add 150 Chef & Brewers over the next two years to improve food takings further.

Leisure division profits fell 11 per cent, to £445 million. The company blamed £2 million of exceptional costs incurred after restructuring of Center Parc operations combined with negative currency movements. S&N said that trading on the Continent remained slow.

A 7.2p interim payout, up 10 per cent, is due on February 7.

Tempos, page 30

Troubled Wickes set to launch £50m call

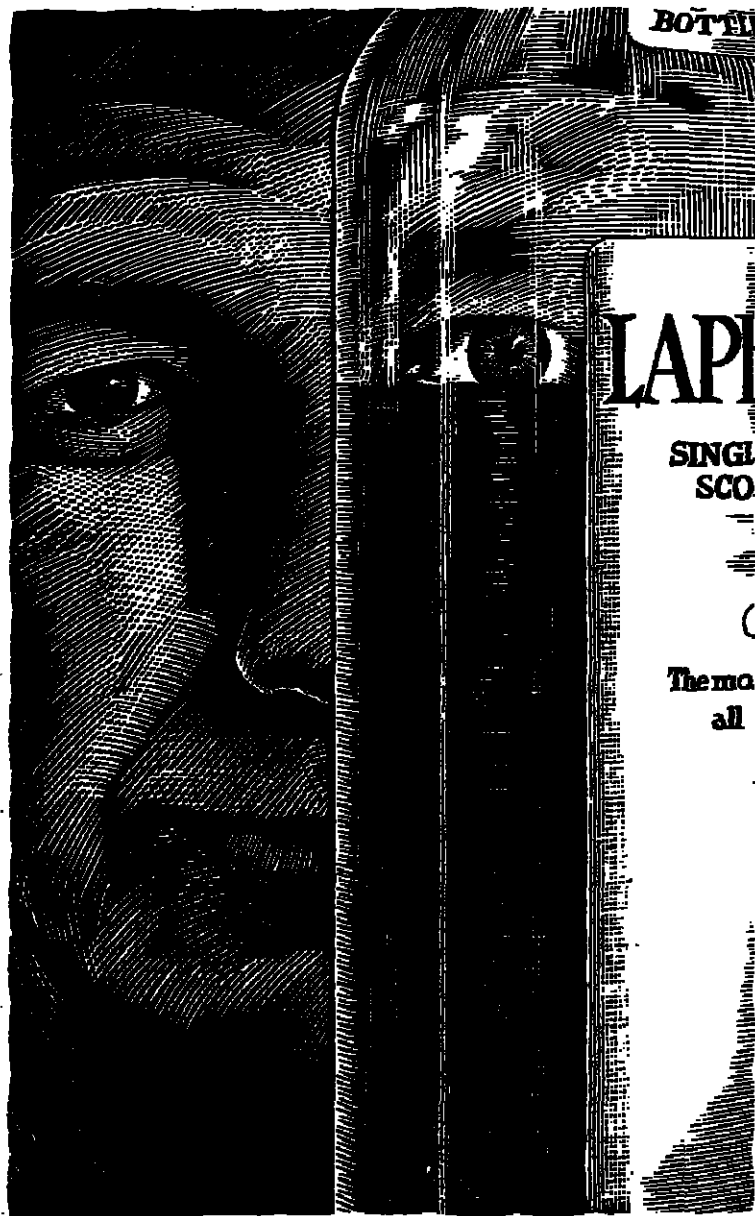
WICKES, the builders' merchant whose former senior managers are under investigation by the Serious Fraud Office, is expected to launch the prospectus for a £50 million rights issue late next week (Sarah Cunningham writes).

The company was earlier expected to try to raise about £30 million, but has since realised that it needs more cash to plug the gap left by three years of profit overstatement. The

recapitalisation will allow trading in its shares, suspended in June after accounting irregularities were uncovered, to resume in January.

In October, after an investigation by accountants and solicitors, Wickes disclosed that, in the three years to the end of 1995, it had overstated profits by £51 million. It said there had been "deliberate misrepresentation" of rebate arrangements with suppliers.

THERE'S
a thin line between
LOVE & HATE.
It's about 1/3 of the way
DOWN
the bottle.



SINGLES
SCO
Thema
all

You may love your first sip. You may loathe it. The attraction of Laphroaig (la-froyg) isn't always immediate. It could take a few drams, or a few days. Somewhere down the line you might grow to appreciate its rich aroma of blue pear smoke. Or warm to its earthy saltiness. Then again, you might not.

LAPHROAIG
no half measures.

net
names

International Internet
Name Registry

Would you do business without registering
your business name?

NetNames is the only company that provides a full range of services to help you protect your business name online. We can help you register your domain name, create your website, and more.

Call us for an application form

Protect your company, product
and trading names, register
them NOW.

http://www.netnames.com
e-mail: netnames@netnames.com

Freephone 0800 269049

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Abbey rate increase adds to investor nervousness

STOCK MARKET investors now seem resigned to the prospect of another rise in interest rates before too long. As if to focus their minds, Abbey National pushed up its rate to borrowers by an extra quarter-point, providing sterling with a further opening loss on Wall Street, where the Dow Jones tumbled almost 500 points in early trading, this gave no incentive to investors.

The FT-SE 100 index closed 19.5 points down at 4,038.5 but selling pressure was minimal, reflected in the low level of turnover generally that saw 553 million shares traded.

The Abbey National's decision to follow the lead of rival Nationwide and push up rates earned it a rise of 12½p at 709p. Behind that were stories of a bid from Prudential at 485p, still doing the rounds.

The biggest faller among the top 250 shares was Rascal Electronics after a surprise profits warning. The shares finished 50p down, or almost 18 per cent at 22½p, ahead of interim figures on Thursday.

The market had been looking for a half-year pre-tax profits of almost £40 million but Rascal said it expected to report £21 million. A dip in radio orders was blamed. A total of 7.35 million shares changed hands.

Sears slipped 1½p to 92½p after confirming what the City had suspected for some time — that a 'for sale' sign had gone up at its Freemans mail order operation. Prospective buyers include Otto Versand, the German retailer, privately-owned Littlewoods and Great Universal Stores. The company was expected to command a price tag of between £350 million and £400 million. That compares with the £477 million Sears paid for the business a few years ago.

Thorn fell 7p to 270p after a downgrading by Morgan Stanley, the US securities house. Meanwhile Redland began to regain its composure after last week's sharp fall. The price worked 3p to 373p as Kleinwort Benson, the broker, told clients the price had fallen too far.

News that bid talks had collapsed left Berisford, the



Rusi Kathoke, left, and Ian Harvey saw BTG shares fall 75p

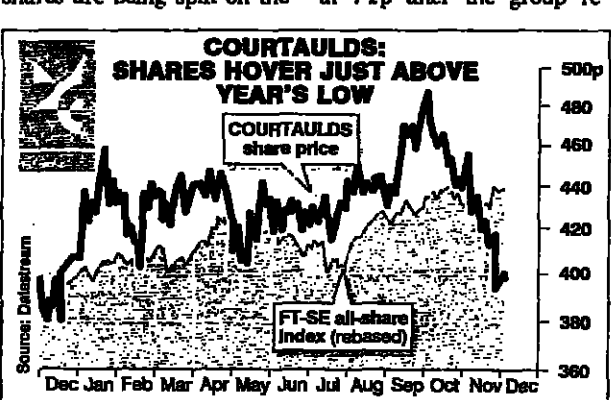
Magnet kitchen furniture group, 9p lower at 135p. City speculators are still hoping that another bid will materialise.

Sieba was a nervous market ahead of interim figures to-day, with the price dropping 9½p at 940p. Brokers have forecast pre-tax profits of £216 million against £166.2 million last time.

Courtaulds slipped 3p to 397p, only 3½p above its low for the year, continuing the slide after the profits warning in July that has undermined the shares. The company is making up the top 100 companies. If Courtaulds loses its position it could lead to a further sell-off.

BTG, the technology transfer company led by Ian Harvey, chief executive, and Rusi Kathoke, finance director, failed to capitalise on a return to the black during the first six months of the year, with the shares falling 75p to £24.37½ as the profit-takers moved in.

Pre-tax profits were £170,000 compared with a deficit last time of £2.1 million. The shares are being split on the



Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

vealed it had received a number of bid approaches, all of which valued the group at a discount. This follows the failure of its proposed acquisition of The Drift Golf Club for which a deadline of last Friday had been set.

Scottish & Newcastle jumped 22p to 66½p after the group confirmed that the cost saving targets was being met at Courage, its recent acquisition. As better than expected half-year figures revealed, the rest of its brewing operations remain flat and Center Parcs is still finding the going difficult. Brokers are looking for between £370 million and £375 million for the final outcome.

First-time dealing in Semple Cochrane, the business services group, got off to a flying start after a placing at 180p. The price opened at 217½p and never looked back before closing at its best of the day at 218½p, a premium of 38½p to 125p after announcing plans to raise almost £6 million by way of a placing and open offer of 5.53 million shares at 116p. The funds will be used to finance the acquisition of Madison Holdings, a major importer and distributor of bicycle products. Rory

Wace edged ½p higher to 78½p having worked itself up from a low of 56½p in recent weeks. The price still stands well below the 79p high for the year, but brokers claim the selling has been overdone.

Pifco, the household appliances group, was unmoved at 283p on reports it wants to bid for Kenwood, its bigger rival, 13p dearer at 233½p. At these levels Kenwood carries a price tag of more than £100 million while Pifco is less than half that size.

GILT-EDGED: The decline in the purchasing managers' index came as a pleasant surprise, although prices closed below their best levels of the day. The highest gains were seen at the longer end of the market, resulting in a further flattening of the yield curve.

In futures the December series of the long gilt closed five ticks better at £12 as the total number of contracts completed reached 47,000.

In the cash market, Treasury 3 per cent 2015 put on £13½ at £105½, while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 finished three ticks lower at £103½.

NEW YORK: Shares on Wall Street were mostly weaker in morning trading, with retailing and technology sectors the exceptions. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 35.40 points lower at 6,486.30.

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 6486.30 (-35.40)
S&P Composite 752.98 (-4.04)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 20674.99 (-345.87)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 13517.36 (-133.63)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 627.24 (-3.82)

Sydney:
All Ordinaries 2385.1 (-4.35)

Frankfurt:
DAX 2858.60 (-13.08)

Singapore:
Straits 2193.41 (-5.53)

Brussels:
General 10458.94 (-24.02)

Paris:
CAC-40 2318.63 (-2.97)

Zurich:
SEA Gen 830.40 (-1.40)

London:
FT 30 2806.1 (-20.9)
FT 100 4088.5 (-19.5)
FTSE Mid 250 4414.6 (-13.7)
FTSE 250 2005.2 (-4.8)
FTSE Eurotrack 100 1877.55 (-4.83)
FT All-Share 1976.89 (-4.28)
FT Non Financials 2028.66 (-1.53)
FT Fixed Interest 117.38 (-0.28)
FT Govt Sec 94.63 (-0.38)
FT Govt 100 94.63 (-0.38)
SEAO Volume 553.8m
USM (Datastream) 192.82 (-0.59)
US\$ 1.6850 (-0.0045)
German Mark 2.2891 (-0.0078)
Exchange Index 94.5 (-0.4)
Bank of England official close (Hort)
ECU 1.5352
ECU 153.04 (2.78) Jan 1997=100
RFX 153.04 (2.78) Jan 1997=100

Access Plus 102½
Advanced Power Cm 84½
Bechtel 4
Bechtel 4
British Harch Leds 188½
Britt Allcroft 152½
Car Group 162½
Charterhouse 6½
Dunelm Mill 121½
Deep Sea Leds (100) 162½
Druid Grp 315½
Exeter Inv 97½
First Russian Frits C 587½
Future Int Tele (115) 126½
Geo Interactive (100) 87½
Gowank Invest 117½
Granchester Hldgs 123½
Kern River 50½
Majestic Wines 226½
Oliver Ashworth 135½
Provent (125) 127½
Recycling Servs 100
Scot Highland Hls 139½
Second St David Res 9½
Second St David 2 P 184½
Semple Cochrane 218½
Snakeboard (5) 3½

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 34

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 34

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 34

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 34

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 34

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 34

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 34

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 34

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 34

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 34

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 34

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 34

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 34

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 34

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 34

Arctian Int n/p (45) 1½
Bodycorp Int n/p 119½
INVESTCO n/p (23) 43½
More Group n/p (600) 28½
Regallan Pps n/p (30) 1½
Sticks n/p (82) 7½
Vision Grp n/p (235) 63½

RISES:
Skelton Health 475½p (+28p)
Kenwood App 233½p (+13p)
WF Elect 500p (+25p)
Prism Rail 475p (+25p)
Scot & New 661p (+22p)

FALLS:
Rascal Elect 225p (-50p)
Adson 570p (-32p)
Chubb Secur 330p (-10p)
Parly 342p (-10p)
Smithline 808p (-13p)

TEMPLES

In better spirits

AFTER several lean years the brewers are looking forward to Christmas. Kenneth Clarke may have declined to play Santa last week, failing to serve up a cut in excise duty as an early stocking-filler, but the evidence from the current crop of results is that the consumer will be more willing to pay for extra rounds at his local this winter.

Overall, beer volumes remain flat but with the consolidation of the industry just about complete — barring the blocking of the Bass acquisition of Carlsberg-Tetley — the brewers are bent on improving their margins. The mix of sales is also better, with the premium end of the market seeing the most rapid growth. Scottish & Newcastle, which unveiled its results yesterday, reported double-digit increases from its premium John Smiths and Kronenbourg brands.

Berisford

BERISFORD'S ghostly suit-or came and left without leaving a trace. The whole episode leaves the conglomerate looking a bit like Lois Lane, the Daily Planet news reporter who alone has actually met Superman but remains convinced that the shy hero loves her.

Unfortunately, Berisford's hero was equally wary of publicity and we are left feeling a bit mystified as to what caused it to fly away. Nothing Berisford said in its recent interim report could have justified a change of heart. In fact, the news was somewhat upbeat, with indications of sharply improved sales at Magnet and a better performance expected from Weblit, the US maker of frying equipment for the big burger chains.

Price is usually the cause

Greycoat

AT ONE LEVEL the squabbling over Greycoat looks like a storm in a teacup. The Moorfield team want a business to run and buying Greycoat is as good a way as any to build a portfolio. British Land is rumoured to be in the wings as a potential buyer of some surplus Greycoat properties, and the UK Active Value Fund will back any move that might lift the share price out of the doldrums. Meanwhile, the Greycoat team is furious at being portrayed as time-serving rent collectors. They want to carry on with their strategy and, above all, want to keep their jobs.

Looked at more dispassionately, however, the squabble is almost a microcosm of what is wrong with much of the property sector. Property is a dud investment, for the most part. Small, indebted property companies with over-extended or second-rate buildings are incapable

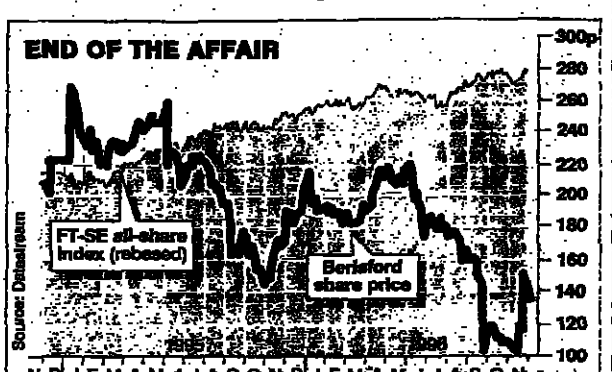
of generating decent growth for their shareholders. The problem is as much a structural one as it is a failure of management. In a low-inflation environment with only moderate demand for floor-space, rents are unlikely to grow except in areas of acute undersupply, out-of-town shopping centres for example. The total return for property over the past year, as measured by investment Property Databank, including both rents and capital value, was 7.5 per cent in the year to October. Hardly the sort of growth to inspire new investment and capital values alone have been falling.

Yet property developers are keen to invest and wonder why pension funds are unenthused. Those that succeed exploit special situations: shopping centres, leisure parks, imaginative deals on sites that are in demand. Moorfield's answer is to slap two companies together and take out some overhead. A merger would save £1.5 mil-

lion in administrative costs, they say. Yet the analogy could be taken further. Why not dump half of the quoted property sector into one enormous dustbin vehicle, hire a firm of surveyors to collect rents, and have done?

Toy Options
ONLY the brave would take on Hasbro and Mattel at the game of betting on the toy that will fascinate the under-eighths this Christmas. Fortunately for Toy Options, it has devised a business that gives it slightly less exposure than the average toy maker. Toy Options makes nothing but acts as worldwide distributor under licence to manufacturers. Its risk is therefore only marketing spend rather than toiling up a factory. Yesterday's deal widens its range beyond toys into other licensed products based on cartoon and movie characters, and should reduce risk further.

Edited by CARL MORTSHED



Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

COMMODITY											
LIFFE				CRUDE OIL (London 6.00pm)				GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES			
COCOA				KISAOIL (S/ barrel FOB)				WHEAT (c/dow L/E)			
Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Brent 35 day (Jan)	21.25	+1.0	Mar	96.60	Jan	91.30	Barley (c/dow L/E)
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507	Brent 15 day (Jan)	22.50	+1.0	Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507	Brent 2 day (Jan)	22.50	+1.0	Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507	WT Texas Intermediate (Jan)	n/a	-	Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507	WT Texas Intermediate (Feb)	n/a	-	Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507	Naphtha	22.10	+2.5 (n/c)	Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-507	777-507	777-507	777-507				Mar <td>96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td></td>	96.60 <td>Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td></td>	Jan <td>91.30 <td></td> </td>	91.30 <td></td>	
777-											

THE TIMES
CITY DIARY

Sainsbury's up the junction

Sainsbury's state-of-the-art store in Clapham is a dry house, after the supermarket chain failed to obtain a drinks licence. A week since the store's grand opening on Budget day, and customers are still going thirsty. Due to a "misunderstanding", a sign in the wine and spirits aisle reads: "The licensing justices have not yet granted us a licence to sell liquor."

Sainsbury tells me that a hearing today with the local magistrate could bring welcome news. Meanwhile, it's smiles all round at Victoria Wine and Oddbins next door.

Governor's try
EDDIE GEORGE took on Hiroshi Tonomura, chairman of Nomura in Europe, at Twickenham last Saturday. Gambling on the England v New Zealand match, the two men pitted their forecasting skills in a rugby sweepstake.

The Governor's position was looking strong until half time, with his money on England scoring first, and an England victory by three points. But it was "Tono" who hit the jackpot, predicting the outcome exactly, with England scoring first and New Zealand winning by 15 points.

Unfortunately for the passionate anglophile, he wasn't the only one to fare so well. The winning name was eventually pulled out of a hat, and a fellow guest ran off with the prize — a bottle of Jameson's.



"Don't look now but here comes Santa with our 1.4-point increase"

THE ban on advertising alcohol in France means that Scottish and Newcastle have been relegated to the bench for tomorrow's Ayrer v Glasgow Rangers match. Instead of sporting the McEwans logo, Glasgow's team will wear one-off shirts bearing the Center Parcs symbol. Glasgow won't muddy a shirt itself, whatever its design, as he is suspended for the game.

Hector's hiccup

HOIST by its own petard, Financial Dynamics yesterday fell victim to the malice of the office fax machine. Addressed to Roland Folz at Foreign & Colonial Management, a misdirected fax from FD's Charles Watson lands on my desk. Delighted with Hypo Bank's recent move to take management control of F&C, Watson suggests that a celebratory lunch to mark the success of Project Hector. Ever the professional, Watson adds: "We will also be sending you an invoice for expenses incurred during the project, such as press release distribution..."

Off their trolleys

AT EMAPS extraordinary meeting to decide the fate of two rebel directors, shareholders were treated to a joke by Anne Simpson, joint director of PricewaterhouseCoopers. Question: What's the difference between a non-executive director and a supermarket trolley? Answer: You can get lots of food and drink into both, but supermarket trolleys have a mind of their own.

MORAG PRESTON

Touch of biter-bitten spices latest 'Chainsaw Al' massacre

Ian Brodie on the company doctor of last resort with a well-honed flair for 'Dunlapping'

Albert J. Dunlap, also known as "Chainsaw Al", has been enjoying more publicity as a saviour of troubled companies than any American business leader since the flamboyant reign of Lee Iacocca at Chrysler. Reporters have been lining up to interview him about his latest mass sackings. He has just taken his axe to half the 12,000 jobs at Sunbeam Corp, the sprawling consumer products company. He has also been promoting his new autobiography, *Mean Business: How I Save Bad Companies and Make Good Companies Great*. The book uses "to Dunlap" as a verb, meaning to turn a company around at lightning speed.

Now, suddenly, the biter has been bitten. Mr Dunlap's private life has been turned into public fodder. *Business Week* alleged that family ties seemingly meant less to him than he asserts in his book. He writes that what makes a successful individual comes down to one word, family, and he wishes that his parents were still alive to "see what they created". But his estranged sister Denise alleges that he ignored his parents in their old age and was too busy to attend their funerals, that he refused to offer her emotional or financial help when she told him her daughter had leukaemia, and that his first wife alleged extreme cruelty in her divorce suit. He was said to have shaded the details of his youth. His book says that he grew up poor in a New Jersey slum, the son of a dockworker. His sister says their father was a successful boiler-maker who took the family on holidays, recorded in photo albums, from Canada to Florida. She says her parents rewarded Mr Dunlap with a new car and a holiday in Europe when he graduated as an army officer from West Point military academy.

Mr Dunlap is no longer available for interviews. Instead of propounding his hard-charging theories as "the doctor of last resort", he issued a statement rebutting some but not all of his sister's comments. He said that he had endured a strained relationship with her for years and she was prone to making up stories about him that were baseless or exaggerated. He had supported her many times financially but his efforts were never appreciated. He was deeply saddened by her unkind comments about his parents, whom he had loved very much and had helped a great deal.

As for intimidating his first wife, as court papers alleged, Mr Dunlap said that in those days divorces were difficult to obtain unless couples embellished their evidence. Besides, he added, it was inappropriate to discuss family matters in the press. That might normally be the case, said *Business Week* but Mr Dunlap had made his life story part of his controversial management philosophy and therefore his



Albert J. Dunlap, above, christened 'Pinstripe Rambo' by his former employer, Sir James Goldsmith, below right, seen with Kerry Packer

character was a legitimate subject for scrutiny. For Mr Dunlap, the episode was a rare setback.

After his army stint, he learnt manufacturing from the shop floor up. An early management coup was the aggressive transformation of an ailing paper-cup firm, Lily-Tulip Inc, into a profitable plum. He was recruited by Sir James Goldsmith, whose friend John Aspinall, the naturalist and gambler, first coined the "chainsaw" label. Mr Dunlap complains that it makes him sound like a serial killer. He prefers Sir James's nickname for him: "Rambo in Pinstripes".

Mr Dunlap shook up Sir James's global holdings, including Crown-Zellerbach, a timber and oil conglomerate where he cut 22 distribution centres to four, sold the costly headquarters tower in San Francisco and moved to Oregon. He regards Sir

James as his mentor and lavishes praise on him in his book. "He was a larger-than-life influence on me, an absolutely brilliant, dynamic and gregarious man who fished me out of the corporate stream and made me what I am today. He encouraged me in everything I did and introduced me to a world of enormous wealth and power."

Moving to Australia, Mr Dunlap tackled Kerry Packer's Consolidated Press Holdings, a huge conglomerate, carving up 300 of 413 companies and discarding the unprofitable bits. Three years ago he was lured back to the United States by the board of Scott Paper, which had lost \$277 million in a year.

Mr Dunlap again went on the attack, slashing expenses, dumping product lines, merging others and paring debt. He dismissed 11,200 employees, a third of the workforce,

including the corporate "morale officer". To the fury of local officials, he wiped out Scott's traditional links to community and charity work and moved its headquarters from Philadelphia to Florida.

Mr Dunlap bristles at accusations that he relishes sackings, insisting they are made necessary by the need to protect shareholders' investments. "When I fire people, of course I feel for them," he says, "but what I keep uppermost in my mind is that if I don't release them today I'm going to have to cut more of them in six months or a year."

"Dunlapping" worked. Scott's stock rose 225 per cent, adding \$6.3 billion to the company's value. A year ago, Scott's shareholders approved a \$9.4 billion merger with Kimberly-Clark Corp. Mr Dunlap brushed off critics who accused him of cutting muscle along with fat and taking credit for improvements that were in the works before he arrived. He walked away with \$100 million in salary, bonus, stock gains and other perks.

Mr Dunlap was far from shy about it. He said: "My pay should be compared to superstars in other fields, not the average CEO. Only a handful of chief executives are worth the big bucks they are paid." He portrayed Scott as a sloppy, incorrigible mess that he transformed into a focused, highly desirable and profitable corporation. "Not bad for less than two years' work," he said, brash as ever.

Brought into Sunbeam as chairman and CEO last July, he followed his pattern of moving quickly to change the old guard and the timeworn corporate culture. He reassembled the turnaround specialists who help him whenever he applies surgery to a sickly company. They fanned through Sunbeam seeking solutions. They returned with files five inches thick, recommending new marketing strategies, new advertising campaigns, a new slogan ("There's a New Sunbeam Shining") — and massive job cuts.

The 6,000 dismissals are perhaps the biggest single percentage cutback ever by a major US corporation. In addition, Mr Dunlap's recovery plan requires closing 18 of 26 factories and more than half the 61 warehouses, eliminating six regional headquarters and unloading 87 per cent of Sunbeam's 5,000 products, including clocks, furniture and bedding. He will concentrate on new lines, among them an "electric blanket with a brain" that adjusts to body temperature, and a toaster that applies "toast" to its task.

Mr Dunlap said that his plan will save \$225 million a year. He expects revenue to double to \$2 billion by 1999, with \$1.2 billion coming from new products and joint ventures overseas. His plan cuts more deeply than Wall Street expected and there was the familiar criticism that Mr Dunlap was simply speeding up implementation of the original management's plans. His planned revenue growth will be hard going, but Sunbeam's shares have more than doubled from \$12 when Mr Dunlap joined, to a peak of \$29.75.

One Wall Street analyst told him during a conference call that "Chainsaw Al" was beginning to sound rather whimsical. "If you pull this off, you should be called 'Nuclear Al'," he said.



JANET BUSH

Softly, softly catchee euro

Euro-sceptics in Britain and elsewhere should not get too excited about the revolutionary mutterings in Paris last week. After years of putting up in silence with mass unemployment and annual waves of violent public-sector unrest all in the name of the franc fort and the dream of European monetary union, parts of the French political establishment appear to be questioning such self-sacrifice.

The former president, Giscard d'Estaing, was the biggest name to break rank. He argued that the dollar is grossly undervalued against European currencies, expressed concern that Germany does not share this view, and suggested that if Germany will not bring down the mark, and with it the franc, then France should devalue against the mark by cutting rates unilaterally.

His intervention gave succour to others. Two members of the Bank of France's policy-making council expressed similar views and were rebuked by Jean-Claude Trichet, governor of the bank, for airing personal opinions. At the weekend, the German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl, and President Chirac offered damage-limitation in the form of a joint statement committing themselves to maintaining the franc/mark parity.

So, is Franco-German unanimity in the run-up to monetary union, so far so solid, finally crumbling? Will the single currency project collapse? Will John Major or Tony Blair be spared having to make a choice after all? No, no, no, as Margaret Thatcher was fond of saying.

There is a big difference between calls for a franc devaluation against the mark — from a former president and the two notorious doves on the Bank of France's council — and a desire to ensure that the euro is not overvalued against the dollar and others, condemning Europe to uncompetitiveness and high unemployment.

A franc devaluation is unlikely, given France's long record of political commitment to EMU. But France may well push Germany for a looser Euro-

pean monetary policy as the quid pro quo for Germany's insistence on strict interpretation of the Maastricht criteria, and a tough stability pact to enforce fiscal discipline post-EMU. This negotiation goes to the heart of conceptual differences between the two countries. Every utterance out of Germany suggests that it wants a hard euro, with few members if necessary. But France's political dreamers are pursuing a more-merciful approach with a soft euro the inevitable result.

The question of who is allowed to join the euro is a genuinely contentious one. But the chasm on how soft or hard the euro should be vis-à-vis other currencies may not actually be that wide. Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundesbank President, said at the weekend that he would not object to a "slightly stronger dollar" against the mark. For all the tough talk, Germany's exporters could do with ammunition against Far Eastern tigers and the Bundesbank may well be contented to let unwitting surrogates in the Bank of France achieve this on its behalf.

Whatever the current disagreements, in the end France is likely to call the shots because Chancellor Kohl will do virtually anything to make sure the single currency goes ahead. Germany was notably more reluctant than France to see Italy readmitted to the ERM but France made sure it happened anyway. President Chirac publicly welcomed the prospect, Italy was emboldened formally to request readmittance and, once the monetary committee was convened, it was inconceivable that Germany could stop the process without huge damage to the credibility of the single currency project.

If France went and cut rates on its own, the Bundesbank might be angry but it would be forced to bail out the franc unless it wanted to be accused of wrecking EMU. A less dramatic but still highly effective course for the French would simply be to talk down the mark and franc. There is little doubt that France will get its soft euro. The chances are it will block Germany's stability pact straitjacket, too.

Impact of law on disability yet to be grasped by firms

Act offers ample opportunities to astute lawyers, writes Grania Langdon-Down

Employers will have to get to grips with a whole new concept of discrimination as the job-related provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 come into effect yesterday. While critics of the Act argue that it does not go far enough, it will have immense significance for employers — both financially and operationally.

Firms that employ more than 20 people must ensure that their employment practices and premises do not disadvantage someone with a disability. This applies to recruitment, terms and conditions of employment, opportunities for promotion or any other benefit, or dismissal. All disabled workers are protected, including contract and self-employed staff. Employers are also required to make "reasonable" adjustments to working conditions or the workplace, so disabled people are not put at a disadvantage. Those who do not meet the requirements of the Act, could face an industrial tribunal hearing that can award unlimited compensation.

The Government has estimated that the employment provisions of the Act will cost employers about £6 million overall. It also expects 2,000 cases to go to industrial tribunals in the first year alone. Jane Ellis, an employment law specialist, said: "Employ-



Disabled rights campaigners helped to bring about an important change in employment law

ers who ignore the rights of disabled workers now do so at their peril.

"Many employers are already used to dealing with the concept of discrimination in relation to race and sex and may believe they are well equipped to deal with the provisions of the Act."

"But many have not yet grasped its full impact. On the face of it, the obligations the Act imposes on employers to accommodate disabled people go much further than the law relating to sexual or racial discrimination."

The Act also lists examples of adjustments employers would be expected to make to accommodate a disabled worker. They extend far beyond simply removing physical limitations and include allocating some of the disabled person's duties to another person, altering work-

ing hours, allowing time off for rehabilitation, assessment or treatment, acquiring or modifying equipment, modifying procedures for testing, providing a reader or interpreter.

However, factors such as operational requirements and financial considerations will be taken into account in determining whether it is "reasonable" for the employers to make the adjustments.

The Government has estimated that it will cost employers on average £200 to accommodate a disabled person, although many suspect the bill will be much higher. Employers can be helped by charities and other organisations, including the government-funded Access to Work Scheme.

Ms Ellis said: "The Act means, for example, an employer should not simply dismiss a production worker who

suffers from long-term back trouble and can no longer move easily or lift ordinary weights. Instead, he must look at ways of adjusting the person's working conditions to overcome the problem."

Employers are also going to have to be aware of "disability etiquette", both in recruiting and in the workplace. For example, advertisements should no longer say "ring this telephone number" because that would suggest a prejudice against deaf people. They are also vicariously liable for the actions of their employees or agents so staff need to be properly trained.

Asked if the Act would stop discrimination, Ms Ellis said: "What I can predict is a great deal of litigation. It is likely to turn into a field day for lawyers because so much of the wording is open to interpretation."

Write a cheque that 300,000,000 Americans will recognise.

Here's a cheque that is accepted across the USA.

It's drawn on a UK based current account — The Citibank US Dollar Account — yet it clears, uniquely, through a Citibank New York branch.

This saves you the associated charges of cheques clearing through the UK and you earn interest on your credit balances.

For the times when only US Dollars will do, find out more about Citibank's US Dollar Account. Call anytime on 0800 00 43 00, quoting reference 1TTMD02.

US DOLLAR ACCOUNT ☎ 0800 00 43 00

CITIBANK
THE CITI NEVER SLEEPS

© Registered mark of Citibank, N.A. The Citibank US Dollar Account is operated with Citicorp International plc. Registered in England No. 1085249. Registered Office: 336 Strand, London WC2R 1JH. VAT No. GB 425 626 20. Unusually owned by Citicorp, New York, USA.

Four vie for BR computer business

By Keith Rodgers

THE British Railways Board has drawn up a shortlist of four potential buyers for BR Business Systems, its computer arm, early next year.

Final bids for the division, which provides ticketing and operating computer services for a range of customers including Railtrack and the train operating companies (TOCs), will be submitted this month, and the sale is expected to go through in February. Sources said the company is likely to be valued at up to £50 million.

Cap Gemini, the French-quoted computer services company, and Sema, which is 41 per cent French-owned and quoted in London and Paris, are understood to be on the shortlist, along with Andersen Consulting and CFM, a subsidiary of ICL. All four declined to comment on the sale.

One surprising absentee is EDS, the computer services giant, which has won a large number of public-sector computer contracts, including deals with the Inland Revenue and the Department of Social Security. The company submitted a bid, but its offer is believed to have been rejected as too low.

BRBS, which employs around 1,100 people, had turnover of about £87 million in the year to March 31, and is thought to be profitable. Although it has more than 80 customers, negotiations over the sale have been complicated by the contracts with Railtrack and TOCs, which form a key part of the division's business. Railtrack said that it was not involved in the sell-off negotiations but "looks on with interest".

It is thought that the bids will be submitted at around £50 million. However, some observers have suggested that figure is high, arguing that the division requires a large amount of investment. The British Railways Board refused to comment.



David Michels, right, chief executive of Stakis, with Richard Cole-Hamilton, chairman, after unveiling full-year profits of £30 million yesterday

Stakis confident of profiting from Metropole integration

By Alasdair Murray

STAKIS, the leisure company, said yesterday it was confident that the performance of the Metropole hotel group would more than match forecasts made when it purchased the chain for £327 million from Lohrho at the end of October.

David Michels, chief executive, said that Stakis is aiming to add around £8 million in turnover and make £4 million of cost savings as it integrates

the hotel group this year. His comments came as the company unveiled a 23 per cent rise in full-year profits, excluding tax and exceptional items, to £30.7 million, in line with a forecast made at the time of the Metropole acquisition.

Turnover increased by 18.5 per cent, to £206 million, while the total dividend was increased by 23 per cent, to 2.15p. Profits in the hotel division excludes any contribution from Metropole, which was

purchased after the year-end of September 29, rose by 29 per cent, to £40 million. Occupancy levels increased from 72.1 per cent to 76.3 per cent, while the average room rate rose from £43.94 to £46.37. The total number of rooms increased to 5,363, spread across 42 hotels.

Stakis said that it is in the process of building new hotels in the London borough of Islington, Belfast, Dublin and Sheffield, which will add a

further 635 rooms to the division. The company added that it remained confident about the market, especially as the low level of new builds should ensure room to continue improving margins.

Profits in the casino division fell to £9 million, from £11.7 million, after the company's exit from the London market with the £27 million sale of the Barracuda in April. Stakis said its new Riverboat Casino in Glasgow had started well

and the company is aiming to roll out the concept across six new sites.

Stakis also opened new sites in Cardiff and Bournemouth during the year, and in Gibraltar. The company added that the performance of the division was now improving although it would be some time before the full potential is realised.

The health and leisure division contributed a maiden profit of £600,000 in line with company expectations. Stakis has combined the LivingWell group of clubs with its existing hotel-based health clubs and is looking to expand the concept. Mr Michels said that overall the company believes its markets remain buoyant and can approach the future with confidence.

Shares in the company closed unchanged at 90.5p. A final dividend of 1.2p is payable next April 11.

Tempus, page 30

German trust plans to raise £6.7m

By Caroline Merrell

THE East German Investment Trust (Egit) is hoping to raise around £6.7 million through a placing of shares priced at 32p.

At the same time as raising the extra cash, the £50 million trust is also switching fund

managers, appointing Foreign & Colonial Ventures in place of Ermagessen. Ermagessen lays some of the blame for the trust's poor performance at the door of Treuband, the German privatisation agency and is suing Treuband for compensation. Shares in the fund,

launched at the beginning of 1991, now stand at 35p, around a third of the issue price. The fund was set up to invest in German privatisations. The trust says some of its problems have been caused by Treuband's failure to fulfil its promises. The money raised through

the share placing will be used to pay the ongoing expenses of the fund. The trust's directors believe that there are prospects for achieving higher values from the current portfolio of investments.

Egit's biggest shareholders include City of London Investment and Norwich Union.

Rationing aids Eurodollar

By Fraser Nelson

THE stabilisation of the second-hand car market enabled Eurodollar, the car hire company, to double its interim profits in the six months to September 30.

However, despite the recovery in pre-tax profits to £4.76 million (£2.42 million), Eurodollar is cutting its interim dividend to 2p (3.12p), payable on January 4. The company, which

sells all of its cars less than a year after purchase, credited carmakers for the recovery in the "nearby new" market.

Ian Mosley, chief executive, said manufacturers had become concerned about the abundance of cars less than a year old in the second-hand market, and had rationed supply to companies likely to resell within nine months. He

said this had firmed the market for the 30,000 cars it sells off every year.

He said: "While the prices are not significantly better than last year, they have at least stabilised."

Eurodollar's earnings rose to 6.79p per share (3.63p). Turnover reached £54.2 million (£48.6 million). Its shares rose 1p to 120p yesterday.



Mosley: cutting dividend

Discovery backs Premier Oil's increased offer

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

DISCOVERY Petroleum, the Australian oil producer, has belatedly endorsed Premier Oil's bid for the company after the offer was increased marginally by one cent to 81 cents, valuing Discovery at A\$107.8 million (about £54 million).

Peter Jones, Discovery chairman, said: "With the increase of the Premier bid to a level which more fairly reflects the value of Discovery's shares, directors recommend acceptance of Premier's offer and intend immediately accepting for their own and their associated shareholders."

Oil Search, the oil production company based in Papua New Guinea, also said it would accept the offer in respect of its 10 per cent stake. It acquired the stake just four days after Premier launched its initial A\$92 million bid for Discovery and had been widely expected

to make a rival offer. Discovery's share fell 2 cents to 80 cents on the Australian stock exchange.

Charles Jamieson, chief executive of Premier, said: "We are delighted to have received the support of the Discovery board and look forward to working with the Discovery team in building Premier's business in the region."

The key attraction of Discovery is its stake in Indonesia's Kalap offshore oilfield, which is situated close to Premier's recently acquired interest in the West Natuna block off the coast of Indonesia. Discovery's assets also include an exploration interest in the Carnarvon Basin off the western coast of Australia, and exploration and production interests in the Perth Basin in Western Australia.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

IN PARLIAMENT

SESSION 1996-97

LYOUDS TSB

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application is being made to Parliament by Lloyds Bank Plc, TSB Bank plc and Hill Samuel Bank Limited for leave to introduce in the present Session a Bill under the above name or short title for purposes of which the following is a concise summary:

To provide for the transfer to and vesting in Lloyds Bank Plc of the under-takings of TSB Bank plc and Hill Samuel Bank Limited.

On and after 4th December 1996 a copy of the Bill may be inspected and copies obtained at the price of £1 each at the offices of:

Lloyds Bank Plc, P.O. Box 112, Canons Way, Bristol, BS99 7LB.

TSB Bank plc, P.O. Box 6000, Victoria House, Birmingham, B1 1BZ.

Messrs Lloyds & Paines, Barrington House, 59-67 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7JA.

Messrs L'Estrange & Brett, 7 & 9 Chichester Street, Belfast BT1 4JC.

Messrs Dyson Bell Martin, 1 Dean Farnar Street, Westminster, London SW1H 0DY.

Objection to the Bill may be made by depositing a Petition against it. If the Bill originates in the House of Commons, the latest date for depositing such a Petition in the Private Bill Office of that House will be 30th January 1997; if it originates in the House of Lords, the latest date for depositing such a Petition in the office of the Clerk of the Parliaments in that House will be 6th February 1997. Further information may be obtained from the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons, the office of the Clerk of the Parliaments, House of Lords and the offices of the under-mentioned Parliamentary Agents.

Dated 3rd December 1996

DYSON BELL MARTIN, 1 Dean Farnar Street, Westminster, London SW1H 0DY. Parliamentary Agents

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE 0171-782 7344 OR FAX: 0171-782 7827

Notices are subject to conditions and should be received by 2.30pm on day prior to insertion.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

Charity Commission

LEGAL NOTICES

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

LEGAL NOTICES

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

LEGAL NOTICES

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

NEW LIMITED

A: Telstra			Telstra		
Delivering solutions to improve customer access.			Call us to find out how we can help you.		
0800 856 0856					

Gilts up, equities down

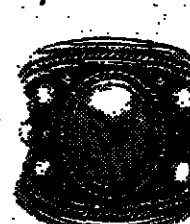
TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1996	High	Low	Company	Price	%	PE
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES						
456	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
457	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
458	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
459	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
460	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
BANKS						
461	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
462	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
463	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
464	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
465	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
BREWERIES, PUBS & REST						
466	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
467	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
468	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
469	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
470	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS						
471	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
472	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
473	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
474	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
475	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
ENGINEERING, VEHICLES						
476	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
477	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
478	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
479	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
480	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
FOOD MANUFACTURERS						
481	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
482	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
483	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
484	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
485	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
BUILDING & CONSTRUCT						
486	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
487	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
488	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
489	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
490	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
ELECTRICITY						
491	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
492	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
493	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
494	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
495	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
ELECTRONIC & ELECT						
496	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
497	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
498	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
499	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
500	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
HEALTHCARE						
501	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
502	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
503	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
504	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
505	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
HOUSEHOLD GOODS						
506	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
507	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
508	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
509	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
510	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
BUILDING MATERIALS						
511	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
512	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
513	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
514	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
515	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
ENGINEERING						
516	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
517	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
518	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
519	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
520	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
CHEMICALS						
521	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
522	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
523	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
524	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
525	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
DISTRIBUTORS						
526	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
527	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
528	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
529	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
530	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1

1996	High	Low	Company	Price	%	PE
LEISURE & HOTELS						
531	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
532	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
533	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
534	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
535	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
MINING						
536	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
537	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
538	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
539	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
540	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
OIL & GAS						
541	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
542	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
543	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
544	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
545	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
PROPERTY						
546	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
547	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
548	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
549	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
550	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
TELECOMMUNICATIONS						
551	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
552	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
553	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
554	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
555	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
TEXTILES & APPAREL						
556	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
557	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
558	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
559	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
560	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
TRANSPORT						
561	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
562	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
563	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
564	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
565	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
RETAILERS FOOD						
566	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
567	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
568	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
569	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
570	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
RETAILERS GENERAL						
571	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
572	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
573	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
574	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
575	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
WATER						
576	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
577	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
578	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
579	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
580	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET						
581	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
582	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
583	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
584	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
585	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1

ELIZABETH GAGE

Goldsmith



18ct yellow and white gold ring with
made pearl and diamonds.

Christmas Opening Times
Saturday December 7th, 14th & 21st 10.00am-4.00pm
Tuesday December 24th 10.00am-1.00pm

20 ALBEMARLE STREET, LONDON W1X 4LB
Telephone 0171 499 2879 Facsimile 0171 495 4550

1996	High	Low	Company	Price	%	PE
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
586	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
587	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
588	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
589	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
590	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
LONGS (over 15 years)						
591	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
592	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
593	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
594	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
595	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
UNDATED						
596	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
597	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
598	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
599	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
600	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of						
601	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
602	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
603	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
604	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1
605	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1

1996	High	Low	Company	Price	%	PE
PHARMACEUTICALS						
606	415	400	Adnoca	12.1	1.2	12.1

LAW

● BLASPHEMY LAWS 39
● DESIGNER OFFICES 41

Stephen Jacobi reports on the lorry drivers caught up in the drugs trade



Waiting game: Steve Bryant's father Peter reads a letter from his son while Damaris Neale (right), Mickey Chinnick's fiancée, prepares to visit him in jail

A case of rough justice

Steve Bryant, a 42-year-old lorry driver and father of four, went on a hunger strike in his squalid Tangerine jail cell on November 1 in an attempt to secure better conditions. He finally ended it last week when he heard his demands were to be met and that his appeal would be expedited.

But such a victory brings little comfort when you face rough justice. He was arrested in January 1994 when cannabis was found under a consignment of frozen squid which was loaded into his trailer in his absence. For this he received the maximum jail term of ten years.

In Morocco, it is no defence to say that you were unaware that drugs were in your load. Only the French get remission because of their prisoner transfer scheme with Morocco.

In Bulgaria, two British drivers, Peter Hobbs and John Mills, from east London, are waiting to hear the result of their final appeal to the Supreme Court in Sofia. They were arrested on the Turkish border in 1995 after 20kg of heroin was found in an unlocked tool compartment on the outside of their rig to which anyone could have had

access. Their trial was reduced to the level of farce when the judge realised there was going to be a potential conflict of interest between them. A new lawyer was appointed but the case continued without the lawyer being given the opportunity to take instructions. They were sentenced to 7½ years in jail.

Two years earlier, in 1993, Mickey Chinnick, a 35-year-old driver from Scarborough, North Yorkshire, was arrested on the Turkish side of the border in disturbingly similar circumstances. He too, carried a consignment of motor vehicle spare parts to Turkey

from Britain and was ordered back via the same route with his empty lorry to pick up another load in Romania.

This time 7.5kg of heroin was found in an outer tool compartment of his vehicle. He has just completed his sentence of 3½ years. But despite being in poor health after a major operation, he is now serving an additional three years because he has no money to pay the £5,000 fine imposed on him.

It seems likely that these three cases are linked. "Piggy-back" smuggling — where drugs gangs use a consigned package attached to the outer

part of a vehicle to smuggle illegal substances across frontiers without involving the driver — is a well-known and regular ploy.

The parcel is often strapped to the bottom of a coach in which the real couriers are passengers. Two weeks ago Clive Brown, a driver from Crayford, Kent, was cleared of a charge of smuggling 10kg of heroin into Britain, which was found strapped to the belly tank of his trailer. He, too, was returning from Romania.

There are encouraging signs that European Union law enforcement authorities are beginning to take drivers' vulnerability in these circumstances very seriously.

A partnership to educate these authorities and drivers' organisations on the dangers they face has been formed by the Fair Trials Abroad Trust and the Committee of Transport Workers in the EC, with the approval of the World Customs Organisation in Brussels.

Outside the EU, however, the situation remains bleak, with no end in sight for the British, Dutch and German drivers held in Morocco, Turkey and the old Soviet empire. Most of the problems stem from ignorance and unfair

application of the law. Tachometers, known as the "spy in the cab", provide useful evidence of unauthorised lengthy stops or detours. Outside the EU, however, it is common for such evidence to be disregarded because lawyers and enforcement officers do not understand it.

There is widespread ignorance of transport industrial practice and the civilised judicial concept of the necessity of a guilty mind for an offence to be committed is disregarded in drivers' offences. The driver is, therefore, dependent on political and diplomatic pressure for fair consideration of his case before or after conviction. He is indeed out in the cold.

The State's word is not good enough

Last month the European Court of Human Rights decided that the United Kingdom would be acting in breach of the European Convention on Human Rights were it to remove Karamjit Chahal to India, the country of which he is a citizen. The judgment will encourage British judges no longer to accept uncritically whatever they are told by the executive about the demands of national security.

The Home Secretary wished to deport Mr Chahal to India on national security grounds because of his alleged involvement in international terrorism on behalf of militant Sikh separatist groups. Mr Chahal denied having any link with terrorist activities, and claimed that if he returned to India he would suffer persecution for political reasons.

The European Court accepted that there was a real risk that Mr Chahal would be killed, or seriously injured, in India by members of the police or security forces because of his political opinions. Article 3 of the Convention prohibits torture, or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. The court has previously held that Article 3 prevents a state from returning a person to another country in which such adverse treatment may be suffered.

The court decided, in Mr Chahal's case, that Article 3 is absolute, and so the United Kingdom cannot rely on its national security concerns, whether or not they are justified.

The removal of the power of a government to expel a person, whatever the danger to national security, is of fundamental significance. But of even greater practical importance are the court's findings that the United Kingdom was also in breach of the Convention by failing to adopt adequate domestic judicial procedures.

In recent years, judicial review has expanded to empower judges to consider the legality, fairness and rationality of aspects of government which, a generation ago, would have been universally acknowledged to be none of the judiciary's business. The final frontier over which the judiciary remains unwilling to pass is "national security". These words retain a mystical significance as an incantation, the utterance of which prompts our judges to assert a self-denying ordinance which deters them from assessing the propriety of executive action.

When the Crown says that a decision was taken on grounds of national security, the court will question neither the veracity nor the reasonableness of that statement. Moreover, the individual has no right to know details of the allegations if the executive asserts that such disclosure will itself harm national

security by betraying confidential sources. For these reasons, the English courts did not require the Home Secretary to produce evidence to support his assertion that Mr Chahal was a danger to national security. Because judicial review involves no consideration at all of the substance of the national security contentions advanced by the executive, the European Court held that the United Kingdom had breached Mr Chahal's Convention rights under Article 5.4 (the right to have the lawfulness of detention determined by a national court) and Article 13 (the right to an effective domestic remedy).

The court rightly recognised that there are difficulties in reconciling the demands of national security with the rights of the individual. However, as it pointed out, some judicial protection can be given without harm to national security. The court referred to the Canadian approach of conducting a private hearing from which the applicant is excluded but is represented by a security-cleared counsel appointed by the judiciary.

In the United Kingdom, senior judges (who are also Privy Counsellors) perform sensitive security functions out of court, for example as the Security Service Commissioner and as the chairman of the tribunal responsible for considering complaints about the Security Service. In a judicial review involving national security, judges should provide the executive to provide the court (though not the applicant) with information which would enable the judges to reach an informed conclusion on whether the decision has been made lawfully, fairly and reasonably. The defect in English law, at present, is that no judicial effort is made to consider the reasonableness and fairness of the executive's reliance on national security considerations.

The conduct of the security services may not have any resemblance to the inefficiency and abuse of power portrayed in John le Carré's latest spy novel, *The Tailor of Panama*. But when civil servants know that they will not have to justify their claims to a court, there is a real risk that decision-making will lack the care and the respect for human rights which the context requires.

Judges should continue to defer to the executive, but only after satisfying themselves that there were proper and reasonable evidential grounds for the impugned decision. Whatever threat to national security may be posed by Mr Chahal, it is no secret that his success in Strasbourg will improve English law.

The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford



COUNSEL
DAVID
PANICK QC

The Times Law Awards 1996



THERE is still time to enter the competition for *The Times* Law Awards 1996 with One Essex Court and win up to £3,000. Students are invited to submit up to 1,000 words on "The Law Lords in the 90s — a New Supreme Court?". The first prize is £3,000, the second £2,000 and the third £1,000. Three runners-up will receive £250. The essays will be judged by a panel led by Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, and the winning entry will be published in *The Times*. Further details can be obtained by ringing 0171-583 2000. The closing date is Friday.

Rights are wrong...

SOLICITORS don't want advocacy rights — it's official. More than 25 per cent of City law firms see no use for solicitor advocates, and more than half are against the establishment of independent ones. Seventy-five per cent of the 46 firms in a survey by the City of London Solicitors' Company said there was a case for solicitor advocates but only 13 per cent favoured in-house-advocacy units.

Carol concert

CAROLS will be sung in law courts again this year to raise funds for the Citizens Advice Bureau in the Royal Courts of Justice. The Treasury Singers, conducted by Edward Adams, an official in the Lord Chancellor's Department, will perform in the Royal Courts of Justice at lunchtime on December 12. A collection is made for the CAB in the RCJ, which is run as a charitable trust. The bureau now has a special project to support litigants who do not have a lawyer — in line with proposals from Lord Justice Ognon. The scheme is manned partly by

staff paid for by the Lord Chancellor's Department, and partly by volunteer lawyers.

Party pooper

LAW firms are already giving warnings of the perils of Christmas parties. The employment unit at Franks Chastley & Co is telling clients to think twice about which entertainers they invite to their company's Christmas party. The advice follows the landmark ruling that a hotel group was liable for the offend-



Manning: offended staff

sive remarks the comedian Bernard Manning made to two of his waitresses during a function.

"To protect themselves against expensive claims and to help all of their staff have a good time every employer should bear this case in mind when planning its Christmas or other parties," says a bulletin issued by the London firm.

Tough love

PARENTS who find their children seized in the trauma of a "rug of love" case can obtain advice in a new booklet launched by Gary Streeter, Minister in the Lord Chancellor's Department. Parents "in this traumatic situation have speedy access to the professional advice and guidance they need," he said. Details from the Child Abduction Unit: 0171-911 7047.

Growing pains

THE workload at Tower Hamlets Barristers' Chambers off Brick Lane has increased so much that the chambers has now opened an

annexe. David Penny-Davey, QC, Bar chairman, said at its recent opening that there was a need for such a chambers outside the Inns of Court to improve access to justice, irrespective of caste, creed, colour or economic status. The chambers and annexe are located in a densely populated Bangladeshi community. It gives free advice on Saturday mornings.

Record time

IS THIS a record? Those who complain that solicitors are slow with wills and conveyancing might note that Edge & Ellison did its bit in a multi-million-dollar company sale in 53 hours.

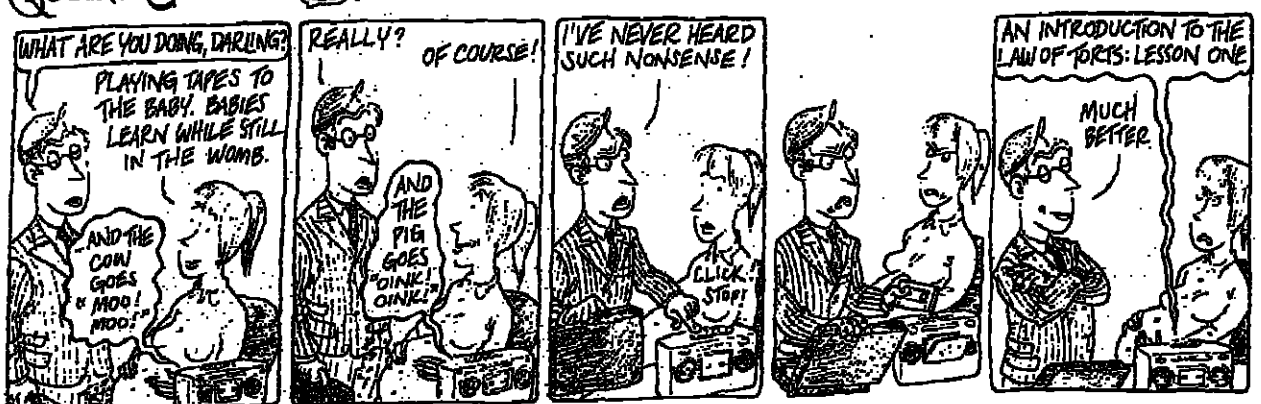
Computervision Corporation, of Massachusetts, sold its Open Service Solutions division to J.F. Lehman, another American company, for £65 million cash, plus several millions more in preferred shares and warrants to buy shares.

David Hull, leader of the team at Edge & Ellison, of Birmingham, London and Leicester, said: "We received instructions at 4.30pm on the Wednesday and completed the work for the disposal of the UK interests in the division by 10pm on the Friday."

SCRIVENOR

STUART & FRANCIS

QUEEN'S COUNSEL



LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FINANCE LAWYER

WARSAW

The International finance practice of the law firm CLIFFORD CHANCE, with its 23 offices worldwide, has grown and diversified rapidly in recent years. As a result of this growth we are looking for an additional finance lawyer to join our team in Warsaw.

Our office currently comprises 20 lawyers plus support staff. You will be part of a dynamic team advising on a wide-range of financing transactions; both domestic and cross-border. The client base is broad, encompassing both leading international banks as well as large domestic banks. The work covers securitisation through project finance to unsecured and secured financing.

You will need to be flexible and embrace new areas of financial expertise. You must be qualified to practice English law and have 2/3 years' post qualification general banking experience.

Knowledge of the Polish language is an advantage but not a prerequisite for this position. Fluency in written and spoken English is essential.

If you are interested please write with your career details to:

Teresa King
International Personnel Manager

200 Aldersgate Street
London EC1A 4JJ

Tel: 0171 600 1000
Fax: 0171 956 0175

CLIFFORD CHANCE

AMSTERDAM BARCELONA BRUSSELS BUDAPEST DUBLIN FRANKFURT HANOI HO CHI MINH CITY HONG KONG LONDON MADRID MOSCOW NEW YORK PARIS PRAGUE SHANGHAI SINGAPORE TOKYO WARSAW ASSOCIATED OFFICES BAHRAIN MILAN ROME

TO ADVERTISE CALL
0171 680 6828

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX:
0171 782 7899

BAKER & MCKENZIE

Vision

TAX LAWYERS
1-4 YEARS' PQE

A unique combination in the London market – part of the largest global corporate tax law firm practice but within a close knit, collegiate culture offering the widest variety of high quality corporate tax work.

Worldwide, our 200+ corporate tax lawyers provide a stronger global tax presence than any other law firm can offer. Our London corporate tax department is a key player in this integrated network yet is smaller than other City corporate tax groups. The result? A department which offers some of the most diverse, innovative and sophisticated corporate tax work available, much of which has a significant cross-border element, in an environment where you won't get stuck in a rut. If you are the kind of lawyer we are looking for, then you will crave a career which offers this

wide range of international and domestic corporate tax work; a career which provides a clear vision for your future.

You will not only be technically very sound, but also broad-minded, confident and career-focused, with 1-4 years' PQE.

Take the major step in your long term career path away from the one you're on, maybe leading nowhere. With us your contribution will be noticed.

Our premium City salary and benefits package reflects our commitment to your development.



For further information in complete confidence please contact our retained recruitment advisers, Stephen Rodney or Seamus Hoar on 0171-405 6062 (0171-405 5727 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougl, 37-41 Bedford Row, London, WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax 0171-831 6394.

CORPORATE FINANCE FUNDS

LAWYER

Herbert Smith's hallmark is a vigorous and unequivocal commitment to our clients' objectives. We aim to distinguish ourselves by our understanding of the business community's needs for legal services and our proactive and innovative approach to meeting those needs. Our people are central to our success. The firm's philosophy is to create a collegiate and highly professional environment characterised by stability, informality and flexibility, ready communication and an acknowledgement of the specific contribution which every lawyer makes to the practice.

ZMB

HERBERT SMITH

BARLOW LYDE & GILBERT

VERSATILE INSURANCE LITIGATOR

0-2 YEARS' PQE

The General Insurance Team is one of the fastest growing areas at Barlow Lyde & Gilbert. It now seeks an additional 0-2 year qualified litigator with or without relevant insurance experience.

The post offers candidates a rare opportunity to gain hands-on experience in a wide variety of work to include complex policy wording and coverage disputes, property claims (fraudulent arson, subrogation actions etc), claims against local authorities and professional indemnity.

Together with outstanding intellectual ability, the right candidate will manifest a marked and distinct will to win combined with a down to earth practical approach and a sense of humour for the benefit of clients and colleagues alike.

Working for the leading City insurance firm will give you access to high quality clients and professional support.

For more information, in complete confidence, please contact Andrew Golding or Joe Macrae on 0171-377 0510 (0171-241 1219 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential Fax 0171-247 5174. E-mail andy@zmb.co.uk

ZARAK
MACRAE
BRENNER

ZMB

STUCHBURY STONE

Company/Commercial Lawyer Berkshire - Highly Competitive

Stuchbury Stone, founded over 100 years ago, is a highly-respected Thames-side commercial practice dedicated to the provision of excellent legal advice to its impressive client-base. Acting for high-profile clients including a recognised Japanese technology manufacturer, the firm has established an enviable reputation based on a strong commitment to client-care.

Today this progressive firm, operating from London, Windsor and Maidenhead, continues actively to develop its position in the legal market and forecasts strong growth for 1997 and beyond.

In light of this ongoing success, Stuchbury Stone now seeks to recruit an experienced company/commercial lawyer to join its Maidenhead office. This role involves a wide range of commercial work including sales and acquisitions, franchising and all aspects of commercial agreements.

The ideal candidate will possess at least 4 years' company/commercial experience from a City or well-respected provincial practice. A following is welcomed although not essential and much more important is the desire, drive and ambition to market the firm energetically and fully participate in developing the department. In return, a highly-competitive salary is guaranteed with early partnership prospects envisaged.

To discuss this opportunity in complete confidence please telephone Nitu Chandra LLB (Hons). Alternatively, send your CV to her at the address below quoting reference number 34413. This assignment is being handled exclusively by Reuter Simkin and all responses received direct or from third parties will be forwarded to them.

Reuter Simkin
5 Bream's Buildings
Chancery Lane
London EC4A 1DY
Tel: 0171 405 4101
Fax: 0171 242 1261
E-mail: rals@psd.co.uk



PSD

Reuter Simkin
Legal Recruitment

74 LONG LANE
LONDON, EC1A 9ET

CHAMBERS

TEL: 0171-605 9371
FAX: 0171-600 1793

Quality of Life

We're beginning to see the 1990s patterns repeating themselves. Candidates complain of being severely overworked. Those in the large City firms are the worst-off. One young solicitor, fed up working from 8.00am to 8.00pm every day, is desperate to find a job in industry, where he will get the quality work and the stimulation he needs, but the hours will be more congenial.

Even partners are beginning to question whether the long hours are worth the admittedly high earnings they draw. Two cases (soon to hit the legal press) concern high-profile partners at top City firms who have decided to move into consultancy – one of them part-time – simply because the pressures of work were becoming intolerable. "Thirteen hours a day, seven days a week from 9am to 10pm is not worth it," says one, "even on the profit share of an equity partner."

The other partner agrees. "I don't want to work excessive hours any more. I'm looking hard at my lifestyle and trying to create a more harmonious balance."

This 'quality of life' choice, this moving into a lower gear (so-called 'downshifting') is becoming an issue among many of our candidates. Some look to industry, others to a smaller firm or to a job outside London. All of them accept that their salaries will be reduced, sometimes substantially. A recent reduction, for instance, was from a City salary of £60,000 to a country salary of less than £30,000.

Michael Chambers

INDUSTRY & BANKING Sonya Rayner, Morwenna Lewis

Entertainment: London

Opportunity for Sol or Bar with at least 18 months' experience to join high profile broadcasting company. Experience of copyright law and IP rights generally is essential. Opportunity to take on additional commercial work.

Engineering: South East

Sol or Bar with 3-4 yrs' commercial experience to join legal dept of international engineering co. Work will include contract negotiations, project finance and consortium arrangements. Must have commercial acumen.

Employment: South East

Recently qualified Sol to join small legal dept of rapidly growing international hi-tech co handling employment law and advocacy, and general commercial law.

PRIVATE PRACTICE

SOUTH: Helen Mills, Aileen Shepherd

LONDON: David Woolston, Simon Anderson

NORTH: Sukh Bhatta MIDLANDS: Niraj Shah Gosrani

Partnership Positions

We have been assisting partners seeking a career move for over 20 years now and are regularly placing several partners each month.

March '97 Qualifiers: City

If your firm is weak in your chosen speciality, or does not have vacancies, we have first-rate positions in property, corporate, banking, tax and pensions.

Intellectual Property: WC2

Able and enthusiastic IP litigator with 3-4 years' experience sought by leading IP firm to handle a range of hard and soft IP with contentious bias.

Pensions: Holborn

Medium-sized practice with fast growing pensions reputation seeks sol with at least 2 yrs' exp for broad range of high quality advisory work and some litigation.

Pensions Litigation: City

International firm with recognised pensions practice seeks 2-3 year qualified assistant with exp of pensions litigation or a desire to specialise in this field.

Legal Assistant: Home Counties

Sol or Bar with 3 yrs' exp to join international software co. Exp of IT contracts essential; financial background useful. Attractive package/prospect.

Part-time: Central London

Opportunity for Sol with c. 5 yrs' exp of genl corporate and commercial law to join financial organisation on a 2-3 day week basis. Work includes contract review and management of outside legal advisors.

IP/IT: City

Sol with 4-6 years' exp which must include IP and IT to join dynamic and fast growing legal dept of financial services organisation. Excellent quality work; very attractive remuneration package.

Commercial Property: City

Major practice offers 2-5 yr qual sol top quality work from institutional, retail and developer clients; second to none. Salary at top of City market rates.

Litigation Partner: WC1

Successful and profitable commercial firm in WC1 seeks established commercial litigator with strong connections to join as a partner.

Company/Commercial: South Hampshire
Key position in firm with extd corporate practice for a 4-6 yrs' exp sol. There will never be a dull moment.

Corporate Finance: Birmingham
Major player in corp fin seeks 0-5 yrs qual sol to join rapidly expanding team. Excellent prospects and salary.

Commercial Litigation: Manchester
Senior player with at least 5 yrs' heavyweights commercial litigation exp is now sought by major firm.

Spring '97 Qualifiers: North

Qualifying in Spring '97 and still seeking a position? Please call now to avoid missing any opportunities!

BIRKETTS

Solicitors

Private Client Lawyer - Suffolk

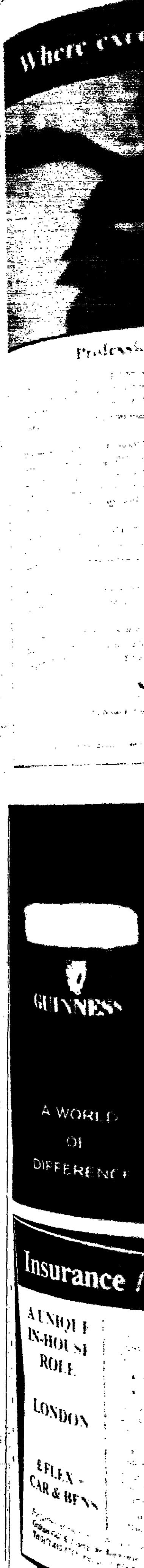
Birketts is a leading regional practice with an extensive commercial and private client base. Whilst its core business is rooted in East Anglia, the firm is increasingly involved in international transactions and is a founder member of the North Sea Group, an association of European lawyers.

The firm has a prominent private client department acting for a range of high net worth individuals including landowners, farmers, business people and those in retirement. It provides a comprehensive service which embraces: personal tax planning; family settlements; the management and variation of trusts; the management of landed estates; heritage property; estate planning and inheritance matters; and, since 1994, portfolio management.

Impending retirement and strategic growth create the need for an additional high calibre lawyer, around 3 to 5 years admitted, with first rate experience gained with a firm recognised in this field and a willingness to be involved in practice development. This is a significant appointment which carries a competitive salary package and clear partnership prospects.

Please contact Stephen Watkins on 0171 430 2349 (day) or 01787 237669 (evenings/weekends) or write to him at Richard Owen & Harper, Kingsway House, 103 Kingsway, London WC2B 6QX. This assignment is being handled exclusively by Richard Owen & Harper and any third party or direct applications will be forwarded to them.

Richard Owen & Harper



Where exceptional is the rule



Professional Support Lawyers

Norton Rose, a leading City of London and International Law Firm, is dedicated to providing the highest standards of service to its clients. To achieve this excellence, our Professional Resources Group provides information know-how, research services and training throughout the Firm.

We are now seeking to appoint additional lawyers to join the support services teams in our Banking and Corporate Finance Departments. These appointments demand strong technical skills and recent experience in the banking or corporate finance fields. An awareness and understanding of the applications of information technology and practical computer skills are essential.

As very much a team player and member of the Professional Resources Group, you will be instrumental in assisting and training lawyers, keeping them up to date with legal developments and preparing newsletters with a marketing slant.

This is an opportunity to develop your expertise within a stimulating, professional environment.

For further information and details of our opportunities for career development, highly competitive salary and benefits package please send your CV to Celia Staples by Wednesday 18 December 1996.

Norton Rose

Kempson House, Canonville Street, London EC3A 7AN.
Telephone: 0171 283 6000.

LONDON HONG KONG BRUSSELS PARIS SINGAPORE BAHRAIN PIRAEUS MOSCOW

HAMMOND SUDDARDS SOLICITORS

Where qualifications carry more weight

Construction Lawyers

Construction Law & Engineering

Located by massive demand for our services, Hammond Suddards' construction and engineering team is already one of the largest in the UK, comprising nearly 50 lawyers.

Success breeds success, and to continue satisfying demand we are seeking to recruit construction and engineering lawyers into our London, Manchester and Leeds offices.

You will have a track record of excellence in the construction and engineering field and have, ideally, 2-5 years' post qualification experience. Your approach to client care must match our philosophy: to provide outstanding service, designed to secure our clients' commercial objectives.

To find out more please contact our advising consultant, Jonathan Bremner, on 0171 277 0510 or write to him at 21MB, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 0171 247 5174.

Alternatively please contact Andrew Russell on 0161 238 4808 or write to him at 21MB North, Portland Tower, Portland Street, Manchester M1 3ET.

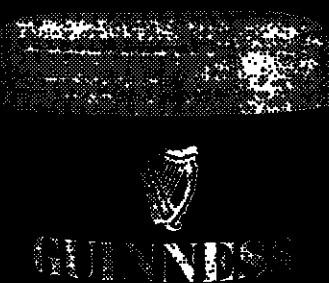
If you prefer, you can telephone our National Head of Construction and Engineering, Mark Hinton, on 0113 284 7000.



COMPANY SECRETARY

HEAD OFFICE

Excellent Package - West London



A WORLD
OF
DIFFERENCE

Guinness Brewing Worldwide (GBW) is one of the world's most successful and profitable companies. With a unique portfolio of brands and a long history of excellence, GBW generates a steady stream of opportunities for talented individuals.

As a Company Secretary, you will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, ensuring compliance with all relevant legislation and providing expert advice to the Board and management.

To be considered for this position, you must have a minimum of five years' experience in a similar role, preferably within the manufacturing sector.

GUINNESS BREWING WORLDWIDE LTD.

W K WEBSTER & CO

Since the 1860's, we have been specialised insurance advisers to the marine industry world-wide. Building upon continued success and development, we are pleased to offer significant opportunities to up to 3 individuals having the right qualities.

Applicants will be from a variety of backgrounds so as to complement our diverse activities. Legal, Admiralty, Marine Claims (Hull & Cargo) or P & I experience preferred but not essential. The successful candidates will need self-motivation, good political and inter-personal skills, organisational ability and a high level of service ethos.

Remuneration negotiable depending upon qualification and experience.

Please reply in confidence with full cv to:

W K WEBSTER
Christopher House
Station Road
Sidcup, Kent, DA15 7BS

Attn: Paulene F. Brown - Personnel Manager

Insurance / Commercial Lawyer

A UNIQUE IN-HOUSE ROLE

LONDON

£ FLEX +
CAR & BENS

Our client is a leading insurance services Group that has undergone rapid growth. It provides a wide range of services and outsourcing facilities to those involved in the insurance sector, including:-

- insurance and reinsurance companies
- Lloyds syndicates and managing agencies

An opportunity has now arisen for a bright young lawyer with a good knowledge of the insurance market to join its small legal team and provide broad based non-contentious advice to the Group and its clients.

The role will involve a great deal of client contact and requires excellent communication skills, adaptability and a strong commercial approach. Experience of the regulatory environment would be an advantage. Candidates are likely to have between two to five years post qualifying experience.

As well as a generous salary, a full range of benefits, including a car, is offered.

For further information in absolute confidence, please contact Struan Hall or Bridget Burton at Graham Gill & Young, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6RN.
Tel 0171 430 1711. Fax 0171 831 4136.



0171 430 1711

Work of unique interest and importance for able young lawyers

Parliamentary Counsel

from £32,962

Translating the plans of policy-makers into law can be a formidable task. It is much more than a question of simply finding the right words. In drafting a Bill, Parliamentary Counsel need to clarify the Government's intentions and to select the conceptual and legislative structure most appropriate to their aims. As a Bill passes through Parliament, Counsel undertake the drafting of amendments, attend sittings of both Houses and advise the Government on points of law and parliamentary procedure.

This work demands a powerful and incisive intellect, the ability to think creatively and constructively, and the stamina necessary to work under pressure that can often be intense. Just as importantly, it also creates an immensely stimulating career for lawyers right at the heart of government.

Parliamentary Counsel are a small team with their own office in Whitehall. A recruit begins his or her career as an assistant to one of the Senior Counsel.

There are now opportunities for barristers or solicitors, qualified in England or Wales, to join an expanding team. In addition to a good honours degree (which need not be in law), you should normally have some professional experience or postgraduate academic experience, or a combination of the two.

Starting salary will be at least £32,962. In the long term, there are prospects of promotion to Parliamentary Counsel with salaries on a scale £73,200 - £106,900.

Written details and application forms may be obtained from the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel, 36 Whitehall, London SW1A 2AY or telephone 0171 210 6619, or from Recruitment & Assessment Services Limited, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG22 7TB, telephone 01256 468551 quoting reference R3124. Completed application forms should be returned by noon 15th January 1997.

An equal opportunity employer.

RAS

**DIBB
LUPTON
ALSOP**

the WAY AHEAD

Corporate/Commercial/Tax

When Dibb Lupton Alsop was created there emerged a truly integrated law firm. A firm with turnover of £100m and more than 700 lawyers dedicated to providing clients with a proactive service, a service that operates effectively, economically, consistently wherever in the world you find us. And our network of national and international offices means you find us all over the place.

We created a firm determined to reward merit, to give its people room to grow with a broad range of work, challenging career paths and excellent remuneration.

Our Corporate/Commercial Group wants more of those people throughout the UK - more high calibre lawyers from top regional or City firms.

Our way ahead should be yours too - if you want to be part of our success.

For further information please write to Karen Mulvihill, Head of Recruitment at Dibb Lupton Alsop, 125 London Wall, London EC2Y 5AE

LONDON

A 1-3 year qualified corporate lawyer for a range of M&A and joint venture work for leading private companies and a 2-5 year qualified for a mix of corporate finance matters.

Two corporate tax specialists at newly qualified to 3 year level.

BIRMINGHAM

A 2-5 year qualified lawyer with high quality exposure to public sector/PFI projects work.

A corporate/commercial practitioner at the same level, to focus on venture capital or broadly based transactional work.

NQ to 5 years' PQE

LEEDS

A 2-5 year qualified corporate lawyer with good Yellow Book experience, to join our high profile corporate finance team.

A corporate tax lawyer (NQ to 3 years' PQE), to advise on structuring and execution of a variety of corporate/business sales and purchases and joint ventures.

LIVERPOOL/MANCHESTER/SHEFFIELD

Our corporate finance teams in each of these offices seek lawyers with 18 months to 5 years' experience, for a mix of takeovers, flotations, M&A and joint ventures.

Alternatively contact our retained recruitment advisers (all qualified lawyers) on a fully confidential basis:- Greg Abrahams, Rebecca Errington or Gareth Quarry in London on 0171 405 4062, William Cock in the Midlands on 0121 212 9555 or Graham Manley in the North on 0113 242 9700 or write to them at Quarry Douglas Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394.



EUROPEAN LEGAL ADVISOR

As part of one of the most successful corporations in the world, GE Capital has 26 businesses across the globe, each of which is a major player in its market. The European Equipment Finance Division (EEF) is an expanding and core business within the group. It is a multi-billion dollar operation providing commercial, finance and leasing operations in more than twelve European countries, including Germany, France, Benelux, Italy and the UK. EEF manages its European operation from London.

EEF seeks a high calibre commercial lawyer, with at least eight years' experience, to join the management team, assisting the European Legal Director in London. You will have wide ranging commercial experience including financing and leasing and you will have strong communication, negotiation and analytical skills.

Prerequisites are strong academic credentials and a European civil law qualification, enabling you to advise on cross border European transactions particularly in the UK, France and Germany. Fluency in French and/or German will be an advantage.

You will advise on projects as diverse as mergers and acquisitions, specialist trading agreements, the development of new business, European, UK and US legislation, regulatory, compliance and litigation work.

The salary and benefits package is excellent. There will be regular European travel and opportunities for career progression within the GE legal group, whether in the UK or abroad.

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact our retained consultants, Sally Harrold or Andrew Caulfield on 0171-377 0510 (0181-995 3396 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Zarak Maccan Brenner, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax: 0171-247 5174. Email: sally@zmb.co.uk This assignment is being handled exclusively in the UK by ZMB and all direct and third party applications will be forwarded to them. Closing date for applications to be received is 16th December 1996.



GE Capital

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Affiliated with General Electric Capital Corporation (USA) and not affiliated with the English company of a similar name.

SOLICITOR/BARRISTER - RETAIL

The opportunity has arisen for a Solicitor or Barrister with no less than five years qualification to join the Legal Department of a prestigious West End Retailer. The position, based in Central London will report to the Legal Director.

The successful applicant will have at least four years' experience of working as an in-house lawyer in commerce or industry and relevant experience in private practice with a major firm. The workload, which is challenging and varied, will include principally drafting and advising upon contracts, trade mark administration, handling legal issues with suppliers and customers and supervising the handling of litigation by external firms. Candidates will require a degree of mental toughness and stamina, together with a pleasant temperament and the ability to work independently, efficiently and effectively under pressure. The ability to advise all levels of management authoritatively upon a wide range of legal issues is paramount.

We are an Equal Opportunities Employer, pleased to offer an excellent salary and benefits package, commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Applications should be forwarded in confidence to Box No 1820

A Project-oriented Petroleum Company
in the United Arab Emirates
requires a

LEGAL COUNSEL

An exciting opportunity to be an integral part of the management team in a dynamic, challenging and rewarding environment, and to provide advice to senior management on a wide range of issues.

The selected candidate will have:

- a degree from a top UK, US or Canadian Law School, Commercial Contract and Finance experience is essential. Familiarity with the Oil & Gas Sector would be an advantage.
- up to 10 years post qualification experience in a combination of major law firms, leading banks and/or oil companies.
- perfect English; Arabic as a second language would be desirable.

The position involves an attractive remuneration package. There is an excellent income tax in the U.A.E.
Apply in confidence to: Box No 1801.

LONG-TERM CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPERIENCED SOLICITORS

Attracting and retaining talented people has been the cornerstone of our success and we place a strong emphasis on career development and progression within our firm.

As one of Ireland's premier commercial law firms, our caseload includes major national and international transactions. In support of our continued growth, we wish to make a number of new appointments in our Commercial Department. These appointments are long term career opportunities, likely to be of interest to ambitious and experienced corporate/commercial solicitors. Applications are invited from suitably qualified specialists working in the following areas of law:

- EU & COMPETITION
- BANKING & FINANCIAL SERVICES
- CORPORATE & COMMERCIAL

We are looking for highly motivated individuals, with a minimum of two years' relevant experience. Successful candidates will have strong analytical skills, plenty of creativity and a head-for-lateral thinking.

Applications from successful UK lawyers or Irish expatriates seeking to return home are especially welcome. Remuneration will be commensurate with experience and individual achievement.

For an informal and confidential discussion on any of these positions please contact David Sanfey at (00 353 1) 661 3311.

Applications marked "Strictly Personal - Ref. DJS" should be addressed to:

A & L GOODBODY

S O L I C I T O R S

1 Earlsfort Centre, Hatch Street, Dublin 2.

The closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 13 December. Interviews will be held in our Dublin and London offices.

WANTED! HOUSING SOLICITOR (North East London)

We seek a solicitor with minimum six years experience in housing law for Advice Centre. Applicant must be able to work as part of a team, dedicated to our constitution and have a high standard of communication skills. Knowledge of Housing Benefit regulations are an essential part of the job.

Salary negotiable.
Please reply with full C.V. to:
Dianne Owen
280c Lea Bridge Road
Leyton
London, E10 7LD

Trade Mark Professional

A leading intellectual property firm in London has a position for an enthusiastic Trade Mark professional within a substantial trade mark practice. The position will involve all aspects of trade mark work, including that of major international corporate clients.

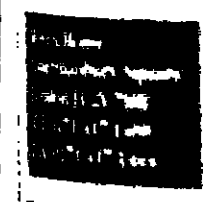
Remuneration will be negotiable but will be not less than £60K for the right candidate and there will be every opportunity of advancement within the firm.

All applications will be treated in the utmost confidence, and existing staff are aware of this opportunity.

Please reply to Box No 1576

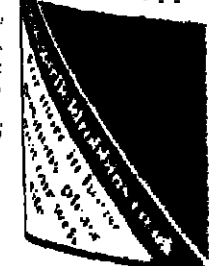
Blasphemy
and freedom
of expression

ADVERTISE CALL
01760 6828



**GARFIELD
ROBBINS**

LONDON • 0171-2521111



COO
JUD

Should Christians keep rights denied to others, asks John Rubinstein

Blasphemy and freedom of expression

Last week, after a six-year fight, Nigel Wingrove, the film-maker, scored an own goal for those vigorously promoting freedom of artistic expression under the European Convention on Human Rights.

The majority ruling by the European Court of Human Rights, upheld the British Board of Film Classification's (BBFC) decision to refuse a certificate for release of his 18-minute video film *Visions of Ecstasy* — on grounds, among others, that it contained blasphemous material.

The ruling came as no surprise to Mr Wingrove. So why did he bring his case? The question of whether the UK was violating the convention by resurrecting archaic blasphemy laws had already been considered by the commission in the case of *Gay News Ltd v UK* in 1982. It took the view that our blasphemy laws, and blasphemous libel in particular, were sufficiently certain and that they had as their main purpose the protection of the rights of others (albeit Christians). The case was therefore not referred to the court.

In Mr Wingrove's case, the commission relied on its *Gay News* decision and expressly rejected Mr Wingrove's main argument that blasphemy was too imprecise and indeterminate and that its use did not constitute a legitimate aim which justified the Government banning the video.

But the commission did distinguish his video from the film which came before the court in the case *Christy v Austria* (1994). By 14 to two, they held that the refusal of a certificate for Mr Wingrove's video was a disproportionate interference with the right to freedom of expression, given the likely extent of distribution and public performances of a video work compared with a film. De-

spite the majority view of the commission on proportionality, the court maintained its non-interventionist view on blasphemy and ruled that the policing of videos in a market difficult to control should be left to national states who "are better placed than the European Court to make an assessment of a video's likely impact".

What is the result? Paradoxically, English blasphemy law has derived new vigour. And if Mr Wingrove is unwilling to risk prosecution for blasphemy before a jury, the public is not going to know whether the work had artistic merit or whether the film would outrage Christians, as the BBFC suggested.

The case was trumpeted as a challenge to blasphemy laws — but that issue was lost in 1982 when the commission blocked *Gay News*'s access to the European Court, an opinion endorsed by the court in *Preminger* as well as *Wingrove*.

Reform will come only if Parliament tackles the issue. The case was therefore not referred to the court. In Mr Wingrove's case, the commission relied on its *Gay News* decision and expressly rejected Mr Wingrove's main argument that blasphemy was too imprecise and indeterminate and that its use did not constitute a legitimate aim which justified the Government banning the video.

But the commission did distinguish his video from the film which came before the court in the case *Christy v Austria* (1994). By 14 to two, they held that the refusal of a certificate for Mr Wingrove's video was a disproportionate interference with the right to freedom of expression, given the likely extent of distribution and public performances of a video work compared with a film. De-



St Teresa of Avila, who is depicted in *Visions of Ecstasy*

the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputations or rights of others."

He considered that practitioners of religions other than Christianity should have parallel protection but did not say which should qualify, and English courts have been condemnatory of certain creeds considered to be exploitative cults.

Over centuries artists have depicted on canvas or on stage Christ's humiliation in multitudes of scenes of crucifixion and the descent from the Cross. Their message to Christians is to overcome that vilification and to have the strength of faith. No Christian's beliefs should be overcome by salacious or offensive films such as

Visions of Ecstasy, which depicts St Teresa of Avila in erotic scenes with the crucified Christ, given that crucial to the story of Christ are His triumphs over vilification and ultimate humiliation in the week leading to His death on the Cross.

Instead of relying on the European Court, Mr Wingrove might have been better spending six years lobbying Parliament to enact the Law Commission's 1985 recommendation to abolish blasphemy; or to amend the Public Order Acts so that the law, through juries, should only constrain artistic (or other) expressions where they are likely to incite practitioners of religion to acts of violence or mayhem.

The author is head of the Intellectual Property and Media group of Manches & Co.

Profits that mean a loss

The Chancellor's proposals to phase out tax relief for profit-related pay (PRP) could cost some legal firms as much as £10,000 in profits per equity partner annually from January 1, 2000.

At present, PRP paid to an employee under a scheme registered by the Inland Revenue is free of income tax up to the lower limit of £4,000, or 20 per cent of the employee's annual salary.

Some legal firms have, therefore, established PRP schemes and substituted part of their employees' existing pay with PRP up to the maximum limits allowed. Because the PRP is tax-free, the staff enjoy a rise in take-home pay of up to 6 per cent, while the firm itself does not suffer any increase in its payroll costs.

The cost savings which can be achieved are often substantial and PRP schemes are becoming increasingly popular. There are now some 14,000 registered schemes in the UK covering more than 3.7 million employees.

But although the full impact of the Chancellor's proposals will

PRP schemes pose a taxing problem, says Michael Rogerson

not bite until 2000, staff could be taking home less pay as early as January 1, 1998, when the current £4,000 limit is halved to £2,000.

For a higher-rate taxpayer, the loss in pay will be about £67 a month and firms are likely to find they have to increase gross pay to compensate for this loss so that salaries remain competitive in the marketplace.

To compensate a higher-rate taxpayer fully will cost the firm an additional £122 a month, or almost £1,500 a year, including employers' National Insurance contributions. Even for a basic-rate taxpayer, the annual cost will be almost £700 a year.

Multiplying this by the total

number of employees is a sobering experience — and there's worse to come. After January 1, 1999, tax relief declines again as the limit is halved to £1,000.

The relief will be eliminated altogether for profit periods starting on or after January 1, 2000. At this point, based on current tax rates, the additional cost will be approaching £3,000 a year for higher-rate employees and £1,400 for those paying tax at the basic rate.

Take a 60-partner firm with, say, five staff per partner, of whom two pay higher-rate tax. It could face additional payroll costs of more than £600,000 a year, or put another way, £10,000 per equity partner.

But firms without an existing PRP scheme still have time to establish one before January 1, 1998, to benefit from the current level of tax relief and make substantial savings in payroll costs during the transitional period.

The author is a partner at Grant Thornton, chartered accountants, and heads the firm's legal group.

Rules that tie you in knots

Chris Barton explains some bewildering marriage laws



LAST WEEK the General Synod of the Church of England decided to abolish the most well-known of all marriage preliminaries: the reading of the banns.

For many of the 600,000 or so who take the plunge annually, the three successive Sundays of church weddings are as traditional as those between sentence and execution. Yet as long ago as 1973, the Law Commission pointed out that hardly any of those who wed understood the system — and that their ignorance was shared by many of those who administer it.

Such negligence is unremarkable, given the bewildering abundance of routes to wedlock available under the Marriage Acts 1949-96. The next best-known preliminary is probably the least used: the Archbishop of Canterbury's Special Licence is obtained annually by a handful of couples from someone called the Master of Faculties, and is used to validate

Anglican marriages held in such places as Oxford college chapels. Many people who are under the impression that they married by way of this romantic-sounding if esoteric document actually made do with a Superintendent Registrar's Certificate with Licence. This certificate circumvents the supposed policy of wedding law by allowing the ceremony to go ahead one day after it is obtained.

Since 1753, that supposed policy has been to prevent clandestine and hurried weddings. Another purpose of Lord Hardwick's Act of

that year was to disallow "common law" marriages — unions created by an informal exchange of vows. Unfortunately, a large number of people suffer under the misapprehension that they are legally married to their "meaningful other" — consequently suffering disillusion on break-up when their solicitors explain no marriage, no divorce, no financial relief.

Now that the banns are to go, thereby ruining plots as well loved as those of *Jane Eyre* and that vintage episode of *The Likely Lads*, their demise will at least be in line with the current policy of encouraging marriage by enlivening, and shortening, the ceremony.

The Marriage Act 1994 has added stately homes and football grounds to the churches, register offices, prisons and deathbeds previously permitted. And more recently, the Marriage Ceremony (Prescribed Words) Act 1996 has drastically cut the minimum number of words required in the civil vows to a mere 34 per party — though retaining the option of saying "thee" rather than "you" to one's beloved.

The author, Professor of Family Law at Staffordshire University, plighted his own truth by way of a Superintendent's Certificate with Licence.

TO ADVERTISE CALL 0171 680 6828

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX: 0171 782 7899

GARFIELD ROBBINS
LEGAL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
LONDON • LEEDS
For more information, please visit our web site

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Garfield Robbins has been recognised as an Investor in People (effective from November 1996) and sees the award as a demonstration of its commitment to the highest standards of service.

In achieving this award, we have had to demonstrate an established personal development programme. All our consultants are qualified lawyers who have undertaken significant and continual training in relation to recruitment and marketing. When registering with Garfield Robbins you can be assured of the highest quality advice from true professionals.

As a firm, we are constantly looking for qualified lawyers who wish to train as recruitment consultants.

Contact Dominique W Pengelly or Helen Wynn-Jones (both qualified lawyers) on 0171 417 1400 or write to them at the London office for further information in complete confidence. Evenings/weekends 0181 882 8450. Confidential fax: 0171 417 1444. Email: Helenwj@garfieldrobbins.co.uk

ENERGY/CORPORATE

5 to 6 Years Qualified to £53,000
A leading City firm with a substantial energy practice requires either a lawyer with experience of energy (oil and gas) or with general company experience covering joint ventures and cross-border transactional work to cross-train into the Energy Department. Excellent opportunity to move to an extremely buoyant area of law. Ref: T9144C.

PROJECT FINANCE

4 Years + Qualified to £85,000
Both domestic and international major project work remains buoyant at this top 5 practice looking to recruit an additional lawyer. Acting for both lenders and borrowers, the firm has applied its expertise to oil and gas, aircraft, ships, mining and engineering projects world-wide and continues to maintain its high ranking. Superb quality of work and environment. Ref: T7364F.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

5 Years + Qualified to £72,000
An already strong property team is enjoying impressive growth and consolidation and would welcome applications from senior lawyers. An unrivalled portfolio of clients includes retail, engineering, institutional, local authority etc, and prospects are very realistic. Ref: T10415F.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

1 to 5 Years Qualified Sydney
A leading Australian firm is now seeking a general commercial litigator to work in its substantial litigation department in the Sydney office. The department acts for sixteen world class banks and an equal number of blue chip corporates. Applicants must have a good academic background and be working with a leading City firm or bank. The firm will sponsor visa applications if necessary. Ref: T1354D.

COMPANY

Senior to £ Partnership
Highly impressive and incredibly profitable medium sized City practice now seeks senior assistant or partner in another City practice with M&A experience and exposure to marketing. The practice can offer immediate partnership and so high fliers facing a progression bottleneck will find this unusually attractive. Ref: T6555G.

EMPLOYMENT

2 to 4 Years Qualified to £50,000
This is a medium to large City firm with a strong commitment to providing a first class legal and skills training programme for solicitors in all departments. Working closely with a prominent employment lawyer, you will be involved in transactional work in a friendly and relaxed but professional environment. Ref: T10399G.

COURT OF APPEAL - JUDICIAL ASSISTANTS

The Court of Appeal has asked the General Council of the Bar and the Law Society to put forward 12 candidates each for newly created temporary posts as judicial assistants to work alongside Lords Justices on applications for leave to appeal in civil cases.

Appointments are for three months, or a law term (Easter/Trinity counting as one term). The first judicial assistants candidates will start from 13 January 1997. Further appointments will be made thereafter as part of a rolling programme.

The first candidates will be required to produce written summaries of cases and the nature of the application, to identify key documents, to research and to present the applicable statute and case law and to discuss the cases with the Lords Justices.

Each appointment will be made on the basis of two and a half days a week, with flexibility as to whether those half days are continuous or spread across different mornings, afternoons or evenings. Remuneration of £58.71 a day is offered.

The General Council of the Bar and the Law Society are looking to identify bright practitioners who have completed twelve months' traineeship/pupillage and who can demonstrate: very high intellectual ability; incisiveness; concision and articulacy; an ability to identify the relevant issues; an ability to work under pressure and as part of a team; and computer literacy.

Those who have already applied to either the Bar or the Law Society need not apply again. A tight timetable applies. Solicitors should make their applications in writing to: Suzanne Burn, The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL. Barristers should make their applications to Christopher Clarke QC, Brick Court Chambers, 15/19 Devereux Court, London WC2R 3JJ, tel 0171 583 0777, fax 0171 583 9401.

All applications must be received by 9 December 1996.

COMPANY SECRETARY

Our client is an organisation which has gone through radical restructuring and recapitalisation and is now looking to build a broadly based financial services group. This will provide an outstanding opportunity for the newly appointed Company Secretary to be at the centre of these developments, working closely with the Board and in particular the Chief Executive.

Your role will be to transform the company secretarial function into a key element of the Group's senior management team. You will advise and assist the Chief Executive on the strategic and operating management of the Group.

A number of developments are planned which will require the Company Secretary to be involved in acquisitions, disposals, and mergers.

You should have an outgoing personality and be calm under pressure, resilient and forward thinking. A creative and innovative approach will be essential.

The successful candidate will be a qualified lawyer with previous company secretarial experience gained within a listed plc. A background in financial services will be an advantage. Experience in corporate deals is essential.

Salary will be negotiable but will reflect the seniority and level of responsibility required.

For further details please contact Fiona Boxall or send her your CV.

CHAMBERS

74 LONG LANE, LONDON EC1A 9ET TELEPHONE: (0171) 606 8844 FAX: (0171) 600 1793

TO ADVERTISE CALL
0171 680 6828

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX:
0171 782 7899

Break Out Into International Finance

1-5 years' ppe (in this or another field)

As a lawyer, possibly the best precaution against restricting your future career development is to join a major law firm with a substantial global presence - a firm truly amongst the legal elite. Our client offers you that opportunity in international finance - a sphere in which they are pre-eminent.

This highly ranked law firm needs lawyers to join its international finance team handling commercial and investment banking, projects, asset financing and international securities. The work involves grasping the commercial considerations facing major UK and overseas financial institutions and their clients, the legal implications of their transactional business, and developing and implementing creative solutions through equity and debt financing.

If you're attracted by the idea of incorporating travel in your working life, secondments with banking clients and the opportunity to work in one or more of the firm's international offices, this position will open new horizons.

We want to hear from people with a good grasp of fundamental legal principles and practice. You'll need a sound academic background and between 1 and 5 years' post-qualification experience. There are no hard and fast rules on where you gained it - preferably in an area such as finance, corporate/commercial, energy or construction. Our client is open minded. Real interest in international work and a willingness to learn new skills are essential.

You'll find this dynamic, progressive organisation extremely employee-aware; it offers a vast range of facilities and you can expect an excellent salary. In all, this will be an outstanding career move.



For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Gareth Quarry, Jonathan Marsden or Seamus Hour on 0171-405 6062 (0171 226-4292 or 0171-403 5727 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Douglas Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394. E-mail: jonathan@qdrec.demon.co.uk

Don't box
yourself
into a corner

PRACTICE LONDON/THE SOUTH

► **Company Commercial** London
The small expanding London office of this leading Scottish firm has an excellent opportunity for a newly to 3 years qualified lawyer to handle a high quality and varied caseload working for 2 partners. Ref: 334LS

► **Commercial** London
This substantial firm, with a small expanding commercial department, urgently needs a 3 or more years qualified commercial lawyer to handle work in the publishing, technology and other such industries. Ref: 435LS

► **Construction** London
This leading commercial law firm is looking for a senior fee earner/partner elect or salaried partner to join its highly respected construction litigation group. A following would be preferred but is not essential. Ref: 325JF

► **Commercial/Competition** London
This large and friendly commercial practice has an opening for a company/commercial lawyer with competition experience to undertake transaction work, distribution, agency, franchising, licensing, consumer credit, import/export agreements, M&A's and JV's. Ref: 1234JF

► **Commercial Property (recently qualified)** Cambridge
This top Cambridge commercial firm has an opening in its high quality team for a solicitor, newly to 1 year qualified, with good academic and property experience during training. Ref: 1221AF

► **Employment (head of department)** Crawley
This highly respected commercial practice already handles a substantial employment caseload and is now seeking an experienced, motivated lawyer to head up and develop a new specialist dept at or near partnership level. Ref: 2057AF

► **Corporate (Partner Level)** Thames Valley
Experienced corporate lawyer required to join a national practice to handle a challenging workload. Ref: 2871AF

► **Public Sector** London
International firm seeks 1-2 years qualified solicitor with central or local Government experience gained in a firm advising public sector organisations. Ref: 725JF

Contact Jane Foster, Andre Field or Laurence Simons

IN-HOUSE & OVERSEAS

► **Manager - International Public Affairs** Brussels
A unique opportunity exists with a US multinational for a lawyer, 5 to 15 years qualified, with experience in EU affairs and lobbying, to be the company's link to Brussels. Ref: 2912NT

► **Sole Legal Counsel** Ireland
US multinational requires a US or UK lawyer with around 5 years commercial and, ideally, procurement experience for its substantial Irish operations. Ref: 2922NT

► **Junior Construction Lawyer** Singapore
Top City firm is looking to recruit a 1-2 years qualified construction lawyer with both contentious and non-contentious experience. Ref: 26590L

► **French Banking/Corporate Lawyer** Paris
Leading international firm with a high quality caseload of Banking/Corporate matters needs a 2-4 years qualified French lawyer with some exposure to a UK law firm. Ref: 1511DL

► **IP - Entertainments Industry** Switzerland
European multinational requires a 2-4 years qualified lawyer with extensive IP (particularly trade marks) experience. Ref: 495NT

► **Asset Finance** Frankfurt
Major European firm, staffed by English and German lawyers, needs several aircraft finance lawyers, 2-4 years qualified. Ref: 2349DL

► **Senior North European Qualified Counsel** London
This global communications company is looking for a telecoms lawyer, ideally 8+ years qualified in Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Belgium etc to join a small and respected in-house team. Ref: 2918NT

► **IT & Commercial** Berkshire
This world leading IT multinational needs an additional lawyer, around 3 years qualified, to join a small, dynamic and commercial European legal team. Ref: 2936RN

► **First European Counsel - Banking** London
Leading US company looking to break into Europe requires a 4-6 years qualified banking/capital markets lawyer to assume a business orientated and strategic role. Ref: 2935NT

Contact Naveen Tuli, Daniel Lewis or Rachael North

LAURENCE SIMONS
International Legal Recruitment

Craven House, 121 Kingsway, London WC2B 6PA Tel +44 (0)171 831 3270, Fax +44 (0)171 831 4429

PRIVATE PRACTICE & IN-HOUSE

TELECOMS

Many opportunities exist for senior IT/telecoms lawyers but this one is without double exception. The firm's success is due to its partners' immediate access to a range of clients which few City firms can better. The candidate sought will be a junior partner or fast track senior assistant with excellent credentials in this sector. Attractive merit based remuneration package. (Ref: 7775)

PENSIONS

Pre-emptive City firm seeks assistance with around 1 year's relevant experience to join highly regarded pensions team. You will have an excellent academic background and must be able to demonstrate a thorough working knowledge of the pensions regime as you will be drafting and advising on new schemes, amending existing schemes and providing expert support on high profile corporate transactions. Busy, close knit team, offering excellent training. (Ref: 8508)

INSURANCE LITIGATION

Leading City litigation practice seeks defendant insurance lawyers at around the 2-4 year level with demonstrable expertise in product liability, professional indemnity and/or reinsurance disputes. The firm has a sophisticated approach to training which means its lawyers develop much more than just their technical legal skills. If you are feeling undervalued at your current firm perhaps you should consider this exceptional opportunity. (Ref: 8559)

EC COMPETITION

City firm with impressive global client base seeks a commercially astute EC competition lawyer with partnership aspirations and at least three years' relevant ppe. You will be based in London as part of a dynamic, well managed team and may come either from another City or equivalent provincial practice or be returning from Brussels. Excellent prospects. Top City salary package. (Ref: 8592)

MEDIA

One of the top few London firms with a strong presence in the media industry requires an additional lawyer to join a rapidly expanding group specialising in film work. Excellent opportunity for ambitious solicitors with natural client handling skills. Successful candidates will have 2-5 years' directly relevant experience of negotiating distribution and other commercial contracts on behalf of film production companies. (Ref: 7060)

CONSTRUCTION

City firm with broad domestic and international client base has recently launched a dedicated construction practice and now seeks a 1-4 years qualified solicitor to join the team. Ideally with a background in contentious work, you must be able to demonstrate a genuine interest in the building industry and the ability to dispense unprejudiced solutions oriented advice. (Ref: 8077)

RETAIL PROPERTY

Property Department at one of London's most progressive firms has developed an enviable reputation in the retail sector. An ambitious and around the 2-4 year level is sought who must have the gravitas to integrate quickly into the team and take early responsibility for a top quality caseload. If you can demonstrate that you are of partnership calibre the firm will give you all the resources necessary to achieve your career ambitions. (Ref: 8995)

CORPORATE TAX

The lawyer with up to 3 years' transactional expertise sought by corporate led medium sized City firm. You will also be broad-based, young and well managed tax team which has been given considerable resources to develop its practice. You will have an excellent academic record and a thorough grounding in corporate tax principles. (Ref: 8144)

JUNIOR EMERGING MARKETS

Prestigious European bank with high profile in London is seeking a junior lawyer with 1-2 years' experience of banking law. Will work with team of lawyers advising emerging markets clients on secondary market trading including loans, capital markets products and general commercial matters. Exciting work environment. (Ref: 7432)

EMPLOYMENT LITIGATION

Leading broadcaster requires team solicitor with around 2 years' post-qualification experience in employment litigation. Caseload will encompass unfair and wrongful dismissal, harassment and discrimination cases. You must have solid experience in these areas and must demonstrate a good working knowledge of industrial Tribunal practice and procedure. For further information please speak to Carmel Murphy. (Ref: 8608)

C.2 YEARS PQE

Major house hold name seeks 3-8 year qualified solicitor/barrister to assist busy team. Work will be broad ranging, covering a wide variety of employment litigation. Candidates must be able to start immediately for about 3 months. Ref: 34343

NON FEE-EARNING/CORPORATE

City based leading UK law firm seeks 3-10 year qualified solicitor/barrister for 6 month contract. Ideally looking for experience of company/commercial matters as well as precedent drafting and marketing. Candidates will work within the corporate department and be fully integrated into the team. Ref: 33557

PRIVATE CLIENT

City firm requires 3-6 year qualified solicitor to assist partner with trust and probate matters. Contract is to start as soon as possible until March 1997, on a part-time, 3 day a week basis. Ref: 34334

For further information please call Emma Hopkins or Nicky Rutherford-Jones on 0171-405 6062 (0181-540 2381 or 0171-350 0682, evenings/weekends) or write to us at Special Project Lawyer, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394.

SPL is a QD Company

SHORT

SPL

TERM

SPECIAL PROJECT LAWYER

CORPORATE

Leading commercial law firm requires 2-6 year qualified company/commercial solicitor to assist with the heavy workload in their London office. Candidates should have a strong corporate background and experience gained in a City firm environment. Ref: 29529

BANKING

Non-contentious banking lawyer sought by this City firm for a 3 month contract. Candidates should have a minimum of 3 years' ppe and will be working alongside a corporate partner on transactional issues. Immediate start. Ref: 31977

SECURITIES

Well-established finance house seeks an experienced banking lawyer, with securities experience, to cover for a 6-9 month maternity leave, to start in December. Financial services and/or investment banking experience would be useful. Ref: 32577

JUNIOR COMMERCIAL

2-4 year qualified solicitor/barrister needed to join major US leisure group for 6 month contract. Work will be broad ranging, including commercial contracts, marketing, litigation, and competition law. Candidates must have good interpersonal skills, be a team player and PC literate. Ref: 33166

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Regional office of high profile international law firm requires a 2-8 year qualified solicitor/barrister. Need has arisen due to heavy workload. Contract to start as soon as possible for 3 months plus. Ref: 29763

PERSONAL INJURY

3-8 year qualified solicitor required to assist major insurance company in their London office. Experience of large defendant personal injury caseload, including road traffic accidents, and employers liability necessary, plus ability to work on a completely unsupervised basis. Immediate start for 2-3 months. Ref: 34328

COMMERCIAL

3-4 year qualified solicitor/barrister needed for 1 year contract with international company in their London office. Candidates must have heavyweight in-house experience and be able to assist on a broad range of commercial matters. Ref: 33502

EMPLOYMENT LITIGATION

Major house hold name seeks 3-8 year qualified solicitor/barrister to assist busy team. Work will be broad ranging, covering a wide variety of employment litigation. Candidates must be able to start immediately for about 3 months. Ref: 34343

NON FEE-EARNING/CORPORATE

City based leading UK law firm seeks 3-10 year qualified solicitor/barrister for 6 month contract. Ideally looking for experience of company/commercial matters as well as precedent drafting and marketing. Candidates will work within the corporate department and be fully integrated into the team. Ref: 33557

PRIVATE CLIENT

City firm requires 3-6 year qualified solicitor to assist partner with trust and probate matters. Contract is to start as soon as possible until March 1997, on a part-time, 3 day a week basis. Ref: 34334

For further information please call Emma Hopkins or Nicky Rutherford-Jones on 0171-405 6062 (0181-540 2381 or 0171-350 0682, evenings/weekends) or write to us at Special Project Lawyer, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394.

SPL is a QD Company

Team Leader - Banking Retail & Services - Competitive Package

Our client is a major blue chip banking group with branches across the UK and worldwide.

Its Retail Team operates often at the cutting edge of the bank's activities providing legal advice across a wide range of issues. These include product development, marketing and advertising, Consumer Credit Act matters, promotions, cards, mortgages and terms and conditions of various services. The Team also ensures the group is legally protected and assists its many in house clients in balancing legal requirements with commercial aims.

A senior Lawyer is now sought to head up and manage the Retail Team, pulling together the diverse strands of responsibility.

The ideal candidate will be a natural leader with excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to cope diplomatically with the demands and pressures inherent in servicing the bank's various client departments. Management skills allied to the ability to assess individual performance are essential.

The successful candidate is likely to be a Lawyer with at least 5PQE, a superb academic background and City or equivalent experience in banking and/or commercial work.

To discuss the potential offered by this exceptional opportunity, contact Marian Lloyd-Jones in confidence.

LIPSON LLOYD-JONES - Legal Recruitment

127 Cheapside London EC2V 6BT Tel: 0171 600 1690/1972 Fax



messag

TO ADVERTISE CALL
0171 680 6828

QD COMME

QD COMME

Put your expertise

Put your expertise

Put your expertise

Put your expertise

TO ADVERTISE CALL
0171 680 6828

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX:
0171 782-7899



LINKLATERS & PAINES

Outstanding opportunities to join one of the world's leading providers of tax advice

CORPORATE TAX 2-4 YEARS QUALIFIED

Linklaters & Paines is one of the world's leading international legal practices operating from the UK and major financial centres around the globe.

The tax practice, currently comprising 30 fee earners, is widely recognised as a market leader and our lawyers are frequently involved in some of the most complex and high profile transactions worldwide.

As part of our strong commitment to the further development of the tax practice, we wish to recruit a small number of outstanding young tax specialists seeking:

- to work alongside a number of well known and highly regarded tax practitioners
- the opportunity to join a team acknowledged as providing innovative and creative solutions to complex problems
- exposure to corporate finance, M&A, international finance, investment funds, project and asset finance and banking transactions

Applications are invited from lawyers with experience gained either with a major London or recognised regional practice. Successful candidates will have an excellent academic background and be able to demonstrate a creative and commercial approach.

This is a rare opportunity to join one of the most respected tax practices which encourages individual talent within the framework of a highly professional team.

Top City salaries are on offer with the real opportunity for personal progression and technical development.

Please contact our advising consultant
Nick McLoughlin in confidence on
0171 415 2828
or write to him
at Taylor Root,
179 Queen Victoria Street,
London EC4V 4DD.
Evenings 0171 431 6467.

TAYLOR • ROOT

LEGAL RECRUITMENT ADVISERS

Legal Advisor

Glasgow

In return you can expect an excellent salary and benefits package.

To apply, please write enclosing a comprehensive CV, to Isabel McDonald, Human Resources, Britannia Court, 50 Bothwell Street, Glasgow G2 6HR. Closing date - 18 December 1996.

The Britannia Group is a progressive financial services organisation with assets of £13 billion and its LifePensions and Investment Companies are based in Glasgow. Through market research and a sheer commitment to excellence, the LifePensions company provides a comprehensive range of products and the Investment arm continues to produce top class fund performance, receiving a number of industry awards as a result of this.

In this demanding role, reporting to the Legal Services Manager, you will be involved in advising the business across the full range of legal issues and responsibilities. This typically will comprise drafting and negotiating commercial contracts and investment contracts, advising on trusts, investment law, insurance and pensions law, and any other issues which arise requiring legal input. In addition, you will communicate effectively with and give appropriate direction to senior management, and liaise with external customers and regulatory authorities.

You will be a qualified solicitor or barrister and you will have at least 3 to 5 years' experience in a commercial environment, ideally with specialised knowledge of the law of insurance or pensions or trusts or investments. An understanding of the financial services environment and an ability to work unsupervised is critical.

First class technical, influencing and interpersonal skills are essential, as is a mastery of strategic issues affecting the business and the legal implications.

Britannia

Shipping Lawyer

Expanding City based shipping practice seeks confident 2-3 years' qualified shipping lawyer to provide support to thriving niche partnership. Excellent salary on offer.

Please write or telephone in complete confidence to
Guy Dorman,
Dorman & Co, 11 Old Jewry, London EC2R 8DL.
Telephone: 0171 686 0636 Fax: 0171 686 0639.



CORPORATE/COMMERCIAL LAWYER 1-4 Years' Pqe

BP is one of the world's largest petroleum and petro-chemical groups. It has established a reputation for sustained high performance and commitment to profitable growth through focused investment in existing and developing markets.

In response to an increasing demand for its in-house legal services, our Client seeks to recruit a corporate/commercial lawyer to join its international legal team.

This is a unique opportunity for an ambitious lawyer looking for top quality work and a long term career in a leading plc. An excellent academic background together with first rate technical training are essential as is a high degree of self motivation, a strong commercial awareness and the self confidence to succeed at the highest levels within this innovative multi-national.

Rewards will include an attractive salary and a valuable benefits package.

For further information in complete confidence, please contact Rebecca Errington on 0171 405 4062 (0181 442 0841 evenings/weekends) or write to her at QD Commerce & Industry, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JL. Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394. E-mail: rebecca@qdc.demon.co.uk (not encoded). This assignment is being handled on an exclusive basis by QD Commerce & Industry and all direct and third party applications will be forwarded to them.



UNITED KINGDOM • FRANCE • THE NETHERLANDS • HONG KONG • NEW ZEALAND • AUSTRALIA • USA

CITY SLICKERS

PRIVATE CLIENT

To £40,000
If you want to service high net-worth individuals, you could not do better than join this top 10 City firm. Its private client department has some of the best clients a firm could wish and it now needs a lawyer with 2-4 years' ppe for tax planning, both on- and off-shore. Superb prospects. Ref: T21523

COMPETITION

To £60,000
This top 10 City firm has little competition in terms of quality of work and clients. Its competition practice is universally regarded and its Brussels office is one of the best. An exciting move for a competition lawyer with 3-5 years' domestic and international ppe. You do not need pure EC experience. Ref: T26479

UTILITIES/PROJECTS

To £60,000
This major City firm is the one to join if you want market-leading projects work, especially for famous utilities, regular overseas travel and the chance to make a reputation and real progress. This is the right move for a utilities/project lawyer with 4-5 years' ppe. Ref: T27973

HEALTHCARE LITIGATION

To £50,000
An exciting niche at one of the City's most dynamic firms is on offer to a lawyer with 2 years' ppe in commercial litigation and/or insurance work. Knowledge of personal injury not necessary to work in the healthcare group, where you will do product liability, consumer protection, regulation etc. Ref: T28544

SENIOR EMPLOYMENT

To £20,000
Partnership is certainly on the agenda for the right candidate here. Well-known City firm can offer genuine prospects to an employment lawyer with 4-8 years' ppe and good contentious experience, especially in tribunals, as the firm does its own advocacy. Marketing skills would help. Ref: T25749

OIL AND GAS

To £45,000
This top 10 City firm is renowned for its international energy projects practice, so there can be few better first moves for an energy/oil and gas lawyer with 1-4 years' ppe. On offer is market-leading experience and prospects and rewards that few others can match. Don't miss out. Ref: T2816

BANKING

To £34,000
Join a top quality commercial firm like this smaller City practice and you will find yourself making excellent progress towards partnership and big rewards. It needs a banking or property finance lawyer with 1-3 years' ppe to help with a broad mix of banking work, property and asset finance. Ref: T23947

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact June Mearns, Stephen Rodway or Deborah Dalglish (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-485 4862 (0181-442 0841 or 0171-354 3079 evenings/weekends) or write to them at QD Commerce & Industry, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JL. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394. E-mail: june@qdc.demon.co.uk (not encoded)

CORPORATE

To £40,000
If you want to be a top corporate lawyer, you need to join a top corporate firm. Leading City firm is always involved in the highest profile M&A, listings and underwriting, cross-border and international securities deals and needs lawyers with 0-5 years' ppe to enjoy the many benefits on offer. Ref: T21594

INSURANCE LITIGATION

To £34,000
This is the place to be an insurance lawyer. This top City firm has all the best clients and support and now wants a litigator with 0-2 years' ppe, not necessarily in insurance work, for a very wide variety of work, including complex policy wording and coverage disputes, property claims and professional indemnity. Ref: T21228

TRADEMARKS

To £75,000
This major City firm is a place that rewards its lawyers better than almost any other and where dynamic lawyers will find a natural home. As in so many other areas, it has a market-leading reputation for trademarks, and a lawyer with 4-6 years' ppe could find this the place to make partnership. Ref: T23776

PRIVATE CLIENT

To £35,000
Private client lawyers, with 4-6 years' ppe, will find a real home in this leading City firm because it takes their work seriously. An employee benefits lawyer might like to move into this area through the junior job. Private client lawyers will have good experience, some in complex tax and trust matters. Ref: T29752

PROPERTY

To £42,000
This very well-known City firm, growing faster than almost any other, can offer a skilled commercial property lawyer with 0-3 years' ppe more than just corporate support. As well as great progress, great work - including development, joint ventures, property investment, landlord and tenant. Ref: T27008

CONSTRUCTION LIT.

To £40,000
A superb opportunity to enjoy a very good life in Hong Kong has arisen at the local office of this major international firm. You will have either 4-5 or 7-8 years' ppe in construction litigation and will be advising on a full range of litigation, arbitration and other forms of dispute resolution. Ref: T26874

SENIOR TAX KNOW-HOW

To £60,000
This could be just the chance for a senior tax lawyer with 3-8 years' ppe to take a step back and take on a vital know-how and marketing role within the tax department of this leading City firm. It would consider a lawyer who is not just a partner. A great way to stay involved but not at the coalface. Ref: T26025

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact June Mearns, Stephen Rodway or Deborah Dalglish (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-485 4862 (0181-442 0841 or 0171-354 3079 evenings/weekends) or write to them at QD Commerce & Industry, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JL. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394. E-mail: june@qdc.demon.co.uk (not encoded)



UNITED KINGDOM • FRANCE • THE NETHERLANDS • HONG KONG • NEW ZEALAND • AUSTRALIA • USA

ScottishPower

Assistant Secretary

Competitive Package

Glasgow

An opportunity with a FT-SE 100 company, highly regarded, with a clear strategy as a builder of businesses. Candidates will appreciate the quality of this career opportunity and understand the demands for professional excellence in a dynamic company whose multi-utility strategy includes electricity, gas, water, telecommunications and retail.

THE POSITION

- ◆ One of two key posts reporting to the recently appointed Deputy Secretary.
- ◆ Handle a broad range of company secretarial activities in a FT-SE 100 company with a large shareholder base.
- ◆ Particular involvement in preparation for meetings and in the management of statutory records, Stock Exchange compliance and shareholder services.
- ◆ Opportunity to contribute to a highly professional company secretarial team.

QUALIFICATIONS

- ◆ Graduate, with full (or near-final) professional qualification; Chartered Secretary or legal qualification preferred.
- ◆ Experience of company secretarial functions an advantage.
- ◆ Mature, confident and articulate, with attention to detail.
- ◆ Ability to grow and develop in the role.

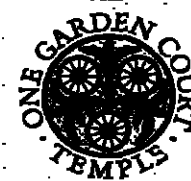
Please send full cv, stating salary, ref GL61101, to NBS, 78 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5UB



NBS SELECTION LTD
a BNB Resources plc company



Glasgow 0141 254 4334 • London 0171 493 6392
Aberdeen • Birmingham • Bristol • City
Edinburgh • Glasgow • Leeds • London
Manchester • Slough • Madrid • Paris



ONE GARDEN COURT Family Law Chambers

are pleased to announce that nine established family law practitioners

IAN FERRIS QC (1971), BRUCE COLEMAN (1972), PETER HORROCKS (1977), JUDITH ROWE (1979), STEPHEN COBS (1985), JOHN STOCKER (1985), CAROLINE STREETS (1986), ANDREW BAGCHI (1989) and MICHAEL LIEBRECHT (1989)

all formerly of 22 Old Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, having accepted invitations, joined chambers as from 28th October 1996

One Garden Court is now the largest set with all members specialising in family law and includes specialists in family related crime

THE MEMBERS OF CHAMBERS ARE:

Elizabeth F. Platt QC (1980)
Allison C. O'Connell QC (1973)
Ian Fiddie QC (1971)
Ellen B. Solomon (1964)
Caroline Whitcombe (1970)
John Mitchell (1972)
Bruce Coleman (1972)
Peter Nathan (1973)
Suzanne Sheaton (1973)
Jennifer Beckwith (1973)

Elizabeth Szew (1974)
Jane Crawley (1979)
Peter Horrocks (1977)
Sharon Beckett Pearce (1978)
Martin O'Dwyer (1978)
Ann Marie Wickham (1978)
Richard Searns (1979)
Judith Rowe (1979)
Kay Hallywell (1980)
Veronica Lashkov (1982)

Suzanne Walker (1985)
Paul Rippon (1985)
Caroline Hely Hutchinson (1985)
Stephen Cobb (1985)
John Stocker (1985)
Caroline Streets (1986)
Gary Crawley (1988)
Gillian Chare (1988)
Alan Inglis (1989)
Andrew Bagchi (1989)

Michael Liebrecht (1989)
Catherine Jenkins (1990)
Ariff Razdan (1990)
Ian Robbins (1991)
Kathryn Edwards (1991)
Nora O'Flaherty (1991)
Joanna Geddes (1992)
Andrew Norton (1992)
Eileen Hudson (1995)
Suzanne Beckwith (1994)

Miss Beckett-Pearce practices from Dutton, North Yorkshire, LS29 0HE. Tel: 01948 817250
Mrs Jane Crawley also practices from 30 Park Place, Cardiff. Tel: 01222 398421

Senior Clerk - Peter Haskins • Practice Manager - Howard Rogers • Junior Clerks - Chris Farnham, David Koolman, Kate Bennett
Administration/Reception - Andrea Jones • Post Clerk - Graham Tibbary

ONE GARDEN COURT • FAMILY LAW CHAMBERS • TEMPLE • LONDON EC4V 9BJ • TEL: 0171 791 7900 • FAX: 0171 791 7929 • DX 1034 CHANCERY LANE

TO ADVERTISE CALL
0171 680 6828

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX:
0171 782 7899

CORPORATE FINANCE PARTNERS - A RARE OPPORTUNITY

Existing partners and senior assistants - It's your ability we seek . . . not your clients

- First class international corporate client base
 - 53 of the FTSE 100
 - 10 of the top 20 US Fortune 500
- Advisers in 3 of the 5 largest M&A deals last year
- Established reputation with leading investment and other banks
- Respected by competitors
- A balanced working environment

One of the premier City firms, with a leading international corporate finance practice, our Client advised in three of the five largest M&A transactions in the City last year. A recognised member of the select group of corporate finance practices, it wishes to capitalise on its momentum built with a very strong client and referral base.

This increasing success is built on valued basics:

- a collegiate environment, designed to encourage personal professional development;
- a lack of forced, over-narrow specialisation;
- one of the strongest ranges of specialist support groups in the City

... add the firm's international client base of key investment banks and blue chip corporates, its international office network and established reputation as a leading corporate practice and you have immediate access to the highest quality corporate finance work available.

The firm needs more high-calibre partners to handle an ever-increasing volume of top quality work. You will be a partner or senior assistant in private practice or a senior corporate lawyer in a bank or major corporate with top-rated technical and commercial skills. A following is not necessary; but an established track record in corporate finance is. As evidence of the significance the firm places on this recruitment initiative, immediate partnership will be offered to the right candidate. Our Client firm has a proven record of successfully integrating laterally-hired partners.

Here is a rare opportunity to develop your skills in an environment which both stimulates and rewards.

For further information, please contact in complete confidence Gareth Quarry or Christopher Sweeney on 0171-405 6062 (0171-452 2904/0181-960 6527 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Douglas Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394. Initial discussions can be held on a no names basis. E-mail: christopher@qdr.ecn.demon.co.uk (not encoded)



LEADING FIRM IN SURREY

As one of Surrey's pre-eminent law firms, this progressive practice has recruited only the highest quality solicitors, many 'ex-City', and is attracting more listed, multi-national and other substantial business clients. In line with its increasing workloads and strategic development plans the firm now seeks the following solicitors:

- CORPORATE 4 years' ppe to Partner
- COMMERCIAL 4 years' ppe to Partner
- PENSIONS 3 years' ppe to Partner
- COMMERCIAL PROPERTY 1-5 years' ppe

These are exceptional opportunities, combining quality of work with quality of life, in a firm with dedicated support staff and state-of-the-art IT and telecomms systems.

This is certainly one of the most exciting firms to be a member of in the South East.

For an initial discussion, in complete confidence, please contact Simon Eagan on 0171 404 6669 (pm/weekends 01252 715302), or write to me, enclosing your CV, at 6 Warwick Court, London WC1R 5DJ (Fax 0171 404 0469).

EAGAN JANION

PLC

ASSISTANT EDITOR

PLC Publications is a young, growing legal publishing house with a reputation for quality and a practical approach. We are looking for an assistant editor for European Counsel, our monthly European journal. Ideally, you will have at least two years' experience as a leading UK or continental firm. You are seeking a new direction and the chance to have a direct impact upon a growing business. Your written English should be excellent - working knowledge of another European language would also be useful.

You will be joining an enthusiastic, forward looking team with an exciting future. Please reply to Robert Dow, 90 Battersea Business Centre, 105-109 Lavender Hill, London SW11 5JL. Tel +44 171 738 2303 Fax +44 171 738 5452

Corporate/Commercial £40K
A leading Southern England practice, based in chambers as a firm going from strength to strength, seeks a company/commercial solicitor with either City or highly regarded provincial practice experience (4-5 years). Knowledge of alternative investments/markets an advantage.
Noble Mallett LLP, London, Commercial Law Recruitment, Market House, The Arcade, 25-26 High Street, City of London EC3A 1YB. Tel: 0171 880 4094 Fax: 0171 880 5055

CLYDE & Co

AN INTERNATIONAL LAW FIRM

CORPORATE PARTNER DESIGNATE

GUILDFORD

LONDON RATES

Clyde & Co. is a fast-growing international law firm which combines the best of traditional values with a modern approach and clear practice strategy. The firm has a strong international presence, with offices around the world. In the UK, the firm operates out of both London and Guildford.

The Guildford office, which comprises approximately 70 fee earners, continues to expand in all of its core business areas. In particular, the UK corporate practice has experienced significant growth and in Guildford advises on a wide variety of transactions, acting principally for entrepreneurial businesses, high-tech companies and blue-chip multinationals.

As part of our clearly defined strategy we now seek an additional lawyer to lead the growth of the corporate practice in Guildford. The successful candidate is likely to be a partner or senior assistant with a major City or well known regional practice, specialising in corporate law. Applicants will have strong client skills, be ambitious and commercially minded with a flexible approach and the personality to deal effectively with clients and develop long-term relationships.

This is an exciting opportunity to further your career within a dynamic and highly motivated team with the support and back-up of a major international practice.

In return, we can offer a focused and highly professional work environment where individuals are encouraged to balance their career with life outside the office. A remuneration package based on London rates is on offer. Early partnership is available to the right individual.

LONDON GUILDFORD HONG KONG SINGAPORE DUBAI CARACAS *PARIS *ST. PETERSBURG
* ASSOCIATE OFFICES

Please contact our advising consultant
Nick McLoughlin in confidence on
0171 415 2828
or write to him at
Taylor Root,
179 Queen Victoria Street,
London EC4V 4DD.
Evenings/weekends 0171 431 6467.

This assignment is being handled on an exclusive basis and any third party or direct applications will be forwarded to Taylor Root.

TAYLOR • ROOT

LEGAL RECRUITMENT ADVISERS

CAYMAN ISLANDS

COMMERCIAL BARRISTER

Due to continued expansion W.S. Walker & Company, a major Cayman Islands law firm, is seeking to recruit a barrister with excellent academic and professional qualifications and approximately five years experience in a leading set of commercial chambers.

The successful applicant will be expected to advise on and appear in a wide range of commercial litigation including major insolvencies, corporate and banking matters. Relevant advocacy experience and the ability to conduct complex cases effectively at all stages are essential.

The position will involve working in a modern office environment in one of the world's most successful and attractive offshore financial centres offering a high standard of living and quality of life. A performance related tax free remuneration package is offered with a substantial guaranteed minimum and the potential for earnings in excess of US\$175,000 per annum with good long-term prospects. Interviews will take place in London.

Applications with current C.V. should be sent by telefax with original by airmail to:
The Senior Litigation Partner, W.S. Walker & Company,
P.O. Box 265, Caledonian House, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands
Telephone: (345) 949-0100, Fax: (345) 949-7886

W.S. WALKER & COMPANY
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW



DEPUTY DISTRICT JUDGES AND DEPUTY MASTERS OF THE QUEEN'S BENCH DIVISION OF THE SUPREME COURT

The Lord Chancellor invites applications from suitably qualified persons to serve as Deputy District Judges in England and Wales or Deputy Masters of the Queen's Bench Division of the Supreme Court in London from 1 April 1998. Those appointed will be in post in time for the implementation of Lord Woolf's proposals for the development of civil procedure.

Deputy District Judges and Deputy Queen's Bench Masters are expected to sit judicially for at least 20 but not more than 50 days each year. Appointment is initially for a probationary period of 18 months (for Deputy District Judges) or one year (for Deputy Queen's Bench Masters), and may be renewed thereafter.

Applicants must have held a right of audience in any class of proceedings in any part of the Supreme Court or in all proceedings in the county courts or Magistrates' courts for a period of seven years and should normally be aged between 35 and 60 on 1 April 1998.

The Lord Chancellor will appoint the candidates who appear to him to be best qualified regardless of ethnic origin, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, political affiliation, religion or (subject to the physical requirements of the office) disability.

An application form, together with a job description and note of the criteria for appointment, information about the expected number and location of vacancies and further information for applicants is available by telephoning 0171-210 0698 (an answering machine will operate outside normal office hours) or by writing to:

District Bench and Supreme Court Masters Appointments (JAD2)
Lord Chancellor's Department
Selborne House
54-60 Victoria Street
LONDON SW1E 6QW

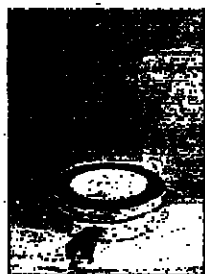
When calling or writing, please indicate whether you are interested in appointment (a) as a Deputy District Judge; or (b) as a Deputy Master of the Queen's Bench Division; or both.

Completed application forms must be returned by noon on Tuesday 7 January 1997.



■ VISUAL ART 1

Master of ambiguous beauty: Howard Hodgkin speaks about his new Hayward show



■ VISUAL ART 2

... while at the ICA the cool menace of Vija Celmins's neglected work goes on display

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ TOMORROW

Encore for a veteran of the avant-garde: the music of György Ligeti comes to the South Bank



■ THIS WEEK

Fifty years on: the Royal Opera House launches its celebration of golden memories

Don't look at me askance

Howard Hodgkin is one of Britain's leading artists. He represented this country at the Venice Biennale in 1984; he won the Turner Prize in 1985; he was knighted in 1992. Next year the German Government will present him with the Shakespeare Prize for German-British relations.

And yet the retrospective of his paintings that was first shown at the Metropolitan Museum in New York last autumn and which opens at the Hayward Gallery on Thursday nearly didn't come here, and Hodgkin still feels it is an uphill struggle to be a successful artist in this country.

Hodgkin, whose last big exhibition here was at the Whitechapel Gallery in 1985, is nervously waiting for the public reaction to the Hayward

Isabel Carlisle meets Howard Hodgkin, as the Hayward mounts a retrospective of his paintings

show. In covering the years 1975 to 1996 it leaves out most of the earlier, more obviously figurative works and looks instead at Hodgkin the fully fledged artist, with his own lush pictorial language. The public loved it in New York but here, Hodgkin suspects, we may find that the intensity of colour distracts us from the emotions and memories that are the subject matter of his paintings.

Oddly, Hodgkin, while not thinking of his work as English, is a very English artist. His works have that special quality of English landscape painting that conjures up place and atmosphere and, as they progress into greater

abstraction, emotional weather and the landscape of memory.

Like many of Hodgkin's works, *Rain in Rutland Gate* evades formal analysis. Why a central column of grey, flanked by areas of red on the one hand and green on the other, with vertical and arching brushstrokes and more densely worked and patterned areas of colour, should evoke glistening London pavements, the leaves of plane trees and a summer downpour is not easy to put into words, but it does. Hodgkin is reluctant to assist. He explains that he can't talk about his paintings, that it is impossible for him to verbalise what is visual, and that his

pictures have to look after themselves. "When I paint a picture I don't know why I choose the colours; they just become necessary because of the circumstances of the painting," he says.

Although the titles that Hodgkin gives his works seem to offer a way in, they can also exclude. Because these are intimate paintings about personal experiences the viewer can be brought up short by lack of information, both visual and verbal. *Dinner in Palazzo Albrizzi*, for example, may or may not combine the sparkle of water in a Venetian canal with a green curtain and a rich red interior. If we become analytical, title plus

painting can give the sensation of looking in on a rather good party but not knowing who was there, or what they were talking about, or why it was worth spying on.

Hodgkin feels that information has come between people and art in a way that it did not 50 or 60 years ago. He talks about the impact made on him by the exhibition of Picasso and Matisse held in the empty galleries of the Victoria and Albert Museum just after the war, which had only minimal wall labels. Today, "information on labels has got longer and longer and longer". In the Tate's current exhibition of the work of the four candidates for the Turner Prize, he says, visitors have watched the videos about each artist rather than looked at the art.

"There is an immense drift away from making value judgments, because they are seen as politically incorrect," he says. "Art has been replaced by information to an extraordinary extent. It has come

People might not enjoy art, but they do respond to it?

about because sociology [information about the society in which the work of art is made] and biography is much easier to absorb and, more importantly, much easier to present than a value judgment."

But reactions to art, and connoisseurship (based on having a "good eye" rather than academic expertise) are out of vogue, he says. "People might not always enjoy works of art, or art at all, but they do respond to them. The relationship of people to art has not changed, but the responding has been interfered with. I believe that human beings respond to the physical attributes of objects in a very straightforward way. Everybody has a sense of colour, and all that good taste means is being able to open oneself to



Howard Hodgkin: reluctant to assist people in the interpretation of his painting

the physical attributes of art." Hodgkin, who has his own collection of Indian paintings and lives close to the British Museum, spends a good deal of time looking at art of different cultures. It is clear to him that the way people are encouraged to make connections between objects today has more to do with information than aesthetics — "an unusable word now", he says. "When I was a child there was an influential book called *Art*

for Children, by Anna M. Berry. It was divided up into sections and illustrated things that were exciting to look at: wonderful Indian paintings; paintings by Italian Futurists; and a marvellous Picasso portrait of his son. The juxtapositions of objects from different periods and cultures were partly based on 'associationism': it was all about trying to show that art was always art."

How does our contempo-

rary, information-based, way of looking at art affect Hodgkin himself? "The lack of value judgments makes it very difficult for artists. If you use value judgments when you look at what you've done and everybody else looking at it doesn't, it increases your isolation. I just want people to respond to my art, that's all."

Howard Hodgkin is at the Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London SE1 (0171 960 4242) from Thursday to Feb 23

GALLERIES: Richard Cork on a long overdue tribute to Vija Celmins

Dangerous whispering

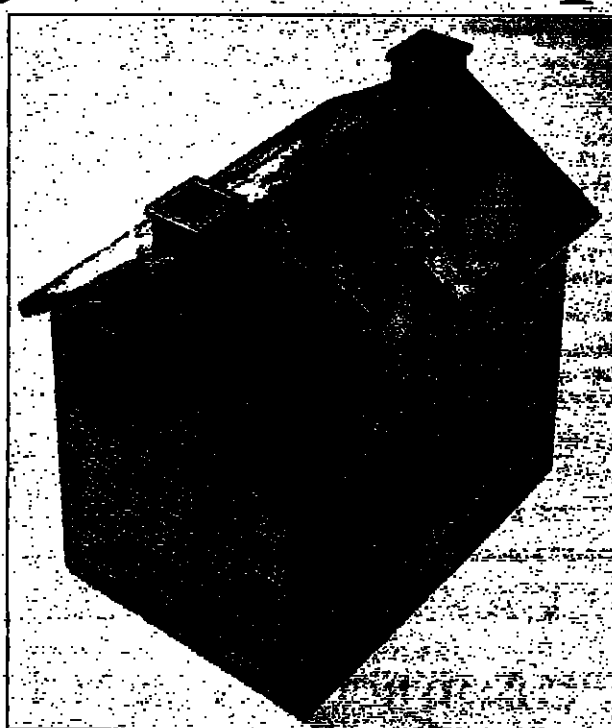
Given the high reputation she has long enjoyed in the United States, Vija Celmins's lack of recognition elsewhere seems astonishing. More than three decades of sustained and utterly singular work are surveyed in her ICA exhibition. But this is the first retrospective she has been given anywhere in Europe, and none of her paintings, drawings or sculptures is owned by public collections either in Britain or on the Continent.

How to account for such neglect? One reason may be that Celmins has never produced much work. Quiet, painstaking and meditative, she takes her time. Even now, at the age of 58 and at the start of a European tour, she emerges from her carefully cultivated privacy with caution.

Above all, though, the work itself is the very opposite of attention-seeking. In an age of clamorous self-expression, Celmins remains content to whisper rather than shout.

Born in Latvia, Celmins lived in Germany before emigrating to America. A sharp sense of dislocation can certainly be detected in the earliest paintings on view. They were executed in a studio she occupied on Venice Boulevard, Los Angeles. The luminous immensity of the Californian coast was on hand, but Celmins behaved as if the world beyond her studio did not exist. An electric fan, marooned on an empty floor, stands expectant. But the flex trailing from its base peters out in the encircling darkness. Soon, we feel, the fan itself will no longer be discernible in the gloom.

Even the most banal implements take on an ominous meaning in these remarkable canvases. And Celmins limits herself to a palette dominated by white, black, grey and the palest of browns, as restrained as the colours displayed in the Velázquez paintings she admired so much in the Prado.



House 2 showing a home on fire; the ferocity of the flames suggests that its destruction cannot be prevented

The longer we look at these early paintings, the more unsettling they become. A hot plate, isolated near the lower edge of an otherwise deserted interior, glows with electric warmth. Its orange rings serve no apparent purpose, though. They merely burn, raising the temperature and accentuating the aridity of the featureless room around them.

When violence erupts, therefore, it almost comes as a relief. The flat, dimly-lit calmness of a typical Celmins space is suddenly invaded by a hand firing a pistol. Even here, however, fundamental information is withheld. As smoke seeps out of the gun-barrel and hangs in the air, it symbolises the mystery of an aggressive act with no visible target.

As the decade develops, her awareness of menace increases. The hand holding a gun reappears in 1965 on the detachable roof of a painted

sculpture called *House 1*. Smoke fuses with clouds, and the furry interior of the building appears to offer claustrophobic protection. But in *House 2* a similar home is on fire, and the ferocity of the flames flaring from the windows suggests that its destruction cannot be prevented.

Does this obsession with danger, all the more disconcerting for being so coolly conveyed, stem from her response to contemporary life? Or can its origins be traced to a more distant period? Once Celmins starts painting, close-up images of a German plane and a "flying fortress" in 1966, her preoccupation with the past becomes clear. Based on grainy photographs, like so much of her work, these spectral fighters and bombers seem to issue from childhood fears still haunting her 20

years after the war ended. Any therapeutic release these may have given Celmins did not last long. Soon after painting a burning man as he struggles to escape from a vehicle consumed by flames, she abandoned painting altogether. The vehemence of this 1966 canvas, where greyness gives way to the rising attack of orange and flicking yellow, seems to have precipitated a crisis.

This time, she turned to drawing, and used her formidable skill with the pencil to make illusionistic images of torn newspaper clippings isolated on a plain acrylic ground. The subjects she chose — a man in a crowd, a spreading oil spill, a forest fire, the aftermath of the Hiroshima bombing — proved that her imagination was still possessed by apocalyptic visions. But they did not last long. By the end of the 1960s, Celmins had decided to take one step further back. Fired by newly released images from space exploration of the period, she used her ever more sophisticated handling of graphite to produce exquisite, beguiling simulations of the pitted landscapes revealed by lunar probes.

Celmins never lost her fascination with vastness. Since then, all her work has centred on the task of reconciling the immensity of the sea, the desert or the sky with the overall flatness of her picture surface.

Her abiding theme in recent years appears to be the interconnectedness of everything. The pallor and hardness of the desert drawings may at first contrast with the deep, velvety darkness of her recent high-sky pictures. But these "mesmerising" images originate in the same feeling of awe that informs the images of sea and land.

These rapt and contemplative sky pictures are finally about the unfathomable nature of everything.

Vija Celmins at the ICA (0171 960 4242) until Dec 22

OPPORTUNITIES TO BUY IN DECEMBER

LONDON: TEL 0171 493 8080

34-35 New Bond Street, London W1A 2AA

- 3rd ♦ December Impressionist & Modern Art, Part I (at 7 p.m.).
- 4th ♦ December Impressionist & Modern Art, Part II.
- 5th ♦ December Continental Books & Manuscripts (continues on 6th Dec.)
Old Master, 19th & 20th Century & Contemporary Prints (continues on 6th December).
Contemporary Art, Part I.
- 6th ♦ December Contemporary Art, Part II.
Printed & Manuscript Music.
- 10th ♦ December Antiquities.
Western Manuscripts & Miniatures.
- 11th ♦ December Old Master Paintings.
Postage Stamps & Postal History of Saudi Arabia (continues on 12th December).
Fine & Rare Wines, Spirits & Vintage Port.
- 12th ♦ December Fine Jewels & Jewels for the Collector.
Works of Art from the Gutzwiller Collection.
- 13th ♦ December Important Italian & French Furniture & Tapestries.
The Collection of Marcel Jeanson. Part III: Ornithological Watercolours of the 17th to 19th Centuries.
Postage Stamps of the World.
- 16th ♦ December Graham Greene: The Clinton Smullyan Collection.
English Literature & History (continues on 17th Dec.).
- 17th ♦ December Chinese Ceramics & Works of Art & Snuff Bottles.
- 18th ♦ December Important Clocks, Watches, Wristwatches & Barometers.
- 19th ♦ December The Russian Sale.

SUMMERS PLACE: TEL 01403 783933

Billingshurst, West Sussex, RH14 9AD

- 4th ♦ December Oriental Ceramics & Works of Art.
European Ceramics & Glass.
- 10th ♦ December Oil Paintings, Watercolours & Prints.
- 11th ♦ December Silver, Silhouettes, Fans, Pipes.
Portrait Miniatures, Vertu & Jewellery.

GLASGOW: TEL 041 221 4817

The Royal Automobile Club, Blytheswood Square

- 11th ♦ December The Glasgow Sale, Scottish & Sporting Pictures

All dates subject to change

SOTHEBY'S

VIEWING IN LONDON WEEKDAYS 9AM TO 4.30PM

(at least three days prior to auction), every Monday until 8pm, on Sundays 12 noon to 4pm. To purchase catalogues please telephone: (0171) 314 4444 or fax: (0171) 408 5909. Sotheby's Cafe open for Breakfast, Luncheon and Tea 9am to 5pm. Sotheby's, 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1A 2AA

New hop
steps from
the ember

Father.
dear
father

COMEDY

French dressing

EARLY SHOW

REQUIEM

CHOICE 1

Buster Keaton's comic genius is celebrated in two London screenings

VENUE: Tonight at the Queen Elizabeth Hall

CHOICE 2

Stephanie Cole opens in a new one-person play by Peter Shaffer

VENUE: From tonight, Yvonne Arnaud, Guildford

THE TIMES ARTS

THEATRE 1

Well-performed surreal nonsense goes on stage at the BAC in *You Haven't Embraced Me Yet*

THEATRE 2

... while the Gate uncovers an engagingly odd fable written, unexpectedly, by Strindberg

THEATRE: A bizarre story of incest and idiocy; and a charming *fin de siècle* tale

Nursery crimes

It is not just the name of this company, *Told By An Idiot*, but the absurdity of the scenario that sharpens your expectations. The stage is impaled by a metal spiral staircase on which sits a small velvet tent. A podgy young man comes on, switches on some fairy lights and suddenly you realise you are in a shabby cabaret club, albeit one that has more hope of selling Scottish meat pies than tickets.

What follows perhaps ought to be painted rather than performed, given that it would make more abstract sense on a canvas than it does visual sense on a stage. The young man, Jimmy (Paul Hunter), is joined by his twin sister Lily (Hayley Carmichael). They "shoot" each other with teapots, chase phantoms rats around the club's drains, and in a bedtime ritual that involves bleating like goats and hooting like monkeys, they make in the tent.

Then a sexy violinist, Natalie (Eva Marie Bryer), charges precariously down the steps of the auditorium dragging a shopping trolley behind her. She plays her instrument beautifully, wears Madonna-like bra and corsets, and she and Jimmy fall in love. The rest of this well-performed nonsense is Lily's subsequent revenge, which involves a great deal of rat poison, and several uncontextualised cabaret numbers for the club audience (us, I suppose).

But rather than subvert the adult way we tend to think about the clichéd love triangle,

the relentless childish interplay between the characters opens yawning gaps of banality and boredom. The actors nobly try to fill these by dashing frantically around the stage, and by trying to create small, charming moments of interaction where things are felt rather than said.

The little sense that is spoken is fogged until it becomes senseless. "Natalie, you've got lovely breasts. I hope you don't mind me saying so," says

You Haven't Embraced Me Yet
BAC, Battersea

Jimmy ad infinitum. She does have lovely breasts, and no she does not mind. In fact, she uses it as proof positive that Jimmy loves her, which he does, but he also loves Lily. The most frustrating thing about John Wright's production is that so much obvious physical skill and energy can add up to so little. In the hour and 40 minutes it takes to draw the threads together to create a single tingling moment of dark pathos, our interest has already had a pint in the bar and is halfway home. This is the fate, ultimately, of a play that tries to scramble by on sheer absurdity. It offers us little by way of cabaret and less by way of story.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER



Three sides to the story: Hayley Carmichael, Paul Hunter and Eva Marie Bryer

Fairytale love among the archetypes

THIS charmingly peculiar fairytale shows how much there is of Strindberg in what might be expected to be a tale that is told in all that remains a surprise.

I first became aware of Walker when he played an unforgotten fawning and grubby clerk in Cheek by Jowl's sublimely funny *A Family Affair* years ago. Though I ought to know better, this is the image that has unfairly hung about him in my mind and can now be replaced, or at least joined, by that of someone who has managed to create, on his directorial debut, a passionate tale of redemptive love among the archetypes that, against so many odds, holds the stage.

More than simply offering a fascinating glimpse of *fin de siècle* drama as written at the end of the last decade,

Swanwhite Gate

the play provides its cast with vivid characters to create and a language to do so that is certainly flowery but reminiscent of meadows and medieval gardens rather than the hothouse. Gregory Motton's translation serves his author well.

Young Swanwhite's father must set off for battle — "Farewell, my great war hero!" — and she is left to the mercy of the stepmother (Richenda Carey, wicked in rustling black velvet). A prince comes courting on behalf of a snotish king, and true love blossoms. The Green Gardener sows discord, horrid things happen in the Blue Tower: fire rages, seas pound, a brace of dead mothers bring blessings. It could all be perfectly absurd but isn't,

because of the cast's convincing habitation of their roles.

Jules Melvin projects gravity and innocence without being mawkish; her wobbly gait at the start is like a bird of course, but also suggests an enthusiastic, two-legged, newborn lamb. Her young prince, Jason Morell, declares his feelings in a most expressive, gently passionate voice, and they play their love scenes (and their show of discord) with stirring conviction.

On Gemma Fripp's set, with its sense that menace lurks in the shadows, the three candle-holding servants look as if they have stepped from an 1890s children's book. Apt image for Strindberg's dip into the pools of myth.

JEREMY KINGSTON

LONDON

BUSTER KEATON: The genius of the silent film, whose technical virtuosity was on no less a director as Woody Allen, is celebrated with the screening of *Steamboat Bill Jr* and *Shirley's*. These two classic films of the 1920s will be shown with new scores by Paul Robinson, played by the Harmon Band. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 011 489 4243. Tonight, 7.45pm.

THE LEARNED LADIES: Steven Puntar's amusing and elegantly acted production of Moliere. With Caroline Beckett and Roger Alden. Barbican, 20, St. Martin's, EC2 011 638 8891. Opens tonight, 7pm. Then tomorrow and Thurs, 7.15pm; Sat, Thurs, 2pm.

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC: Yehudi Menuhin conducts the orchestra in a concert for children of all ages. The programme begins with Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*, followed by Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5*, and concludes with the *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra*. Royal Albert Hall, South Bank, SE1 011 489 4243. Tonight, 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

GLASGOW: Giles Havergal directs Rachel Pittman as Dorothy, moving from black and white to full colour as she

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Macey

sets off to find *The Wizard of Oz*. All the songs of the film included. Citizens, Glasgow, 011 429 0022.

GUILDFORD: Stephanie Cole, whose selection work includes *Topical* and *Waiting for God*, stars in Peter Shaffer's gripping new play for one actor, *Whom Do I Have the Honour of Addressing?* Directed by Bill Bryden.

NEWCASTLE: The arts and industry partnership of the London Symphony Orchestra and Shell enters its 21st anniversary season with the 1988 Shell LSO National Tour. The concert, conducted by Sir Colin Davis, includes James MacMillan's composition for cor anglais, *The World's Ransoming* (soloist Christine Pender), Beethoven's magnificent Fifth Symphony and Shostakovich's Cello Concerto, played by Steven Isserlis.

City Hall 0191 681 2805. Tonight, 7.45pm. Next in Glasgow, Royal Concert Hall 0141 387 5511, tomorrow; Aberdeen, Music Hall 01224 641123, Thurs.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jenny Kingston's assessment of theatre shows in London

House full, returns only

Some seats available

Seats at all prices

WAR AND PEACE: Shostakovich's treatment of Tolstoy's novel tells the story but forgoes the feel and control of the original. National, South Bank, SE1 011 638 8891. Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

THE CHERRY ORCHARD: Tchaikovsky's RSC cast, headed by Penelope Walton, Alex MacKenzie and David Troughton. In a production by Adrian Noble considered the best in living memory.

THE CHERRY ORCHARD: Tchaikovsky's RSC cast, headed by Penelope Walton, Alex MacKenzie and David Troughton. In a production by Adrian Noble considered the best in living memory.

CINEMA GUIDE

Giles Brown's assessment of films in London and elsewhere

on release across the country

I SHOT ANDY WARHOL: (18) Mary Harron's incisive portrait of Valerie Solanas and the Warhol circle, with a superb performance from Lily Taylor. Gals (011-727 4043). Renner (011-727 4043). Screen on the Green (011-727 4043).

THE LONG KISS GOODNIGHT: (18) Preposterous, hard-edged action movie, with Glenn Davis as an amnesiac government assassin. ABC Baiter Street (011-727 4043).

DRACULA: DEAD AND LOVING IT: (PG) Heavy-handed Mel Brooks spoof, with Leslie Nielsen as an accident-prone Dracula. UCI Whiteleys (011-732 3332).

THE YAM: (18) Fun and games, with a tongue-in-cheek look at the 1980 World Cup. Strident version of Roddy Doyle's

LONDON GALLERIES

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

Bedolles: Stephanie Carlton Smith: glasswork (0171-357 0565). ... British Museum: *Mysteries of Ancient China* (0171-438 1359). ... Festival Hall: Contemporary Art Society Market (0171-357 0565). ... The Gallery in Cook Street: Karl Schaefer: Images of God (0171-357 0565). ... Gailtye Museum: Christmas Past (0171-729 8891). ... George & Co: David Lauder: *Dearest* (0171-438 1359). ... Lighthouse House: *Shirley's* (0171-438 1359). ... Last performance, 8.30pm, Thurs, noon and 8.30pm, Fri and Sat.

is what might be expected, the fact that he is telling it in all that remains a surprise.

I first became aware of Walker when he played an unforgotten fawning and grubby clerk in Cheek by Jowl's sublimely funny *A Family Affair* years ago. Though I ought to know better, this is the image that has unfairly hung about him in my mind and can now be replaced, or at least joined, by that of someone who has managed to create, on his directorial debut, a passionate tale of redemptive love among the archetypes that, against so many odds, holds the stage.

More than simply offering a fascinating glimpse of *fin de siècle* drama as written at the end of the last decade,

Swanwhite Gate

the play provides its cast with vivid characters to create and a language to do so that is certainly flowery but reminiscent of meadows and medieval gardens rather than the hothouse. Gregory Motton's translation serves his author well.

Young Swanwhite's father must set off for battle — "Farewell, my great war hero!" — and she is left to the mercy of the stepmother (Richenda Carey, wicked in rustling black velvet). A prince comes courting on behalf of a snotish king, and true love blossoms. The Green Gardener sows discord, horrid things happen in the Blue Tower: fire rages, seas pound, a brace of dead mothers bring blessings. It could all be perfectly absurd but isn't,

because of the cast's convincing habitation of their roles.

Zimbabwe labours on without its prodigal son

Simon Wilde in Harare finds a population pondering the absence of Graeme Hick, once the local boy made good, now an Englishman

There is no doubting the most poignant moment so far of England's tour of Zimbabwe. As the No 3 for County Districts XI came out to bat at Harare South Country Club on Saturday, the announcer read out the wrong name over the public address. It was not John Oates, as it should have been, but that of the man who looms over this tour like Banquo's ghost: Graeme Hick.

Almost every day, one is reminded of the existence of the batsman England left behind. Hick, of course, was born here and has many friends and admirers who would like to have seen him return, in any colour.

Yet there are also those who resent his decisions ten years ago to make England his home and pursue his sporting ambitions there. Bizarrely, Hick was considered for selection by both teams for the match on Saturday, though of course in the end he played for neither. The local association wanted him to play for the Districts side to recoup on the gate some of the large amount of money it paid to the Zimbabwe Cricket Union to stage the game, but he declined two months ago.

"Graeme desperately wanted to be here with England," John Hick, his father, who watched the match, said. "He has not been here for four years and has not really looked forward to coming back, but if you do not make the runs you cannot expect to be picked. He also seriously considered playing for the local association, but was anxious that he would not have done himself justice. He knew he would not have held a bat for two months."

Hick's image is as confused in Zimbabwe as it is in England. Is he one of theirs or is he not? Some still claim him as one of their own; some are happy to accept that he is "English" now, some regard his long residential qualification for England as an act of treachery, though they seem to forget that when he embarked on that qualification process — in the mid-Eighties — Zimbabwe were not a Test match nation and had little immediate prospect of becoming one. They finally achieved



Hick: not selected for tour

Test status in 1992, the year after Hick became available to England. That Hick could contemplate playing for a local side against England does nothing, of course, to assuage those who label him a ruthless opportunist. It is hardly surprising,

then, that there are few outward signs of people eager to lay claim to him. At his school in Harare, Prince Edward High School, there are few reminders of one of its most famous former pupils. The notice boards and trophy cabinets do not bear his name. There is just one photograph of him — among many — in the cricket pavilion.

It is fairly obvious that Hick's presence here would have put hundreds on the gates. His father confirmed the general sense of disappointment. "Many people have come up to me and said what a shame it is Graeme is not here. They were so looking forward to seeing him bat, but I am aware there are also those who would have liked him to come and fail."

Hick's absence may be a personal blessing in disguise. Those closest to him believe he desperately needs a rest from the game that made him famous. He last had an extended break 13 years ago, when he was

taken on a club tour at the age of 17 and Basil d'Oliveira discovered him for Worcestershire's second XI, launching him on his record-breaking career in England.

Others are not so sure. One friend from his Harare days fears his England days are over. "One or two of the English professionals out here [with club sides] think that England have come to a decision about him. They don't want him any more and don't need him. And he does have this fundamental weakness — the way he looks to play everything through gully."

However, David Houghton, the Zimbabwe coach who has known Hick since he was a boy, makes no bones about the fact that his players are relieved Hick was not chosen by England. "We have got over the stage of worrying about him being Zimbabwean. He is English as far as we are concerned and we saw him as a threat," he said.

"I personally am pleased he was left behind. I think it is the best thing that has ever happened to him. He really needs to regenerate. He will come back next summer in England with all guns blazing."

CRICKET: AUSTRALIA HANDED INITIATIVE IN SYDNEY BY EMBARRASSING INEPTITUDE OF OPPONENTS

Shambolic West Indies plumb depths

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN SYDNEY

SYDNEY (fourth day of five): West Indies, with all second-innings wickets in hand, need 313 runs to beat Australia.

TEST cricket is a hard taskmaster, especially when played on the ugly mongrel of a Sydney day that confronted West Indies yesterday. As hot winds gusting in a sticky 90F, a searching challenge to a fielding team's purpose and professionalism, West Indies were pitiful. They reacted to adversity in a manner that will have made their proud management team of Clive Lloyd and Malcolm Marshall cringe in disbelief.

Their overnight position in this fourth Test reveals little. Indeed, although Mark Taylor's declaration asked them to score 340 — 64 more than the best winning run-chase in a Sydney Test — they conceivably felt they had one chance in 250 with the Brian Lara factor that we must endlessly acknowledge.

This misses the point. Throughout this fourth day, their bowling was unambitious and their field placements as fatalistic as when Sunderland put nine men behind the ball and kicked for touch after having two players sent off at Highbury in September. There was a growing feeling that Australia would not lose a wicket all day when Matthew Elliott, 22 short of a century, collided violently with his partner, Mark Waugh, in a bizarre episode that concluded with him being carried from the ground on an improvised stretcher, the drinks buggy.



Elliott, left, and Waugh collapse after colliding while attempting a third run. Elliott made his ground, but needs surgery on his right knee

Worst of all in the litany of West Indian chaos, though, was the fielding. From first hour to last they were lamentable in a way I have never witnessed from a Test team, not even England at their conical worst on this same ground six years ago.

A side with the traditions of West Indies deserve a plea in mitigation and they will find that this resolute pitch was useless for their regulation

pace attack, that their priority, already 1-0 down in the series, was damage limitation and that the outfield on the once immaculate SCG was a rutted disgrace. All have a degree of truth, but not enough, not remotely enough.

The tone for a day that went precisely to Taylor's plan, give or take 20 minutes at the end, was set 20 minutes after the start. Mark Waugh, on 15, cut at Benjamin and Courtney Browne, moving to his right, withdrew his glove from the flight so late that Lara, at slip, was left helpless. Waugh went on to make 67 and to bat almost to tea.

Every wicketkeeper drops catches, but the uncoordinated Browne has no understanding with his first slip, which is a profound problem. Mistakes, consequently, are so regular that Browne is also in no position to perform the chorus of enthusiastic regrouping that is mere routine to good glovermen.

There is a perpetual fascination to the body language of the West Indians but there

was little guesswork to be done now. Three times, Benjamin misfielded embarrassingly, and the ball was not always chased after the fumble. Ambrose joined in, then Bishop, and the day was summarized when Ambrose, who rose from his dark depths only by wearing purple socks, was straight-driven by Greg Blewett for Bishop and Walsh to escort it geriatrically to the boundary.

Of course, it was unpleasantly hot. The winds blew off the balls and brought in a constant fly nuisance, but such a climate is not new to these men. Only their apparent

indifference and unarguable ineptitude is new.

It was hard work for the batsmen, too, though more because the surface is insultingly slow than through the merit of the bowling. Elliott and Waugh had added only 64 in 26 overs when, with their eyes on Walsh's throw from mid-wicket, they had a head-on crash seeking a third run.

Hooper, the bowler, gathered the return and could have turned to break the stumps with Waugh yards short. Instead, unfathomably, he threw to Browne, who failed to beat Elliott's desperate dive.

Hooper's action meant that Elliott was able to retire unbeaten, though he now faces surgery on a torn right knee cartilage.

Michael Bevan's personal uncertainty meant he was not the ideal man to come in, but the nature of the bowling was eventually therapeutic and he became the third Australian to pass 50, after Waugh's dismissal had spared Ambrose the indignity of failing to take a wicket in the game.

Blewett's second perky innings of the match set up the declaration and allowed Taylor an enterprising experiment, opening the bowling not with Shane Warne, but Waugh bowling off spin. It just might have worked, too.

There was a theory that the roughness of the ground would permit Australia some reverse-swing later today but their luckiest match-winner remained Warne. Failure, however, would guarantee him some ribbing — two hours after the game concludes, he is due to appear as a guest on *Blankety Blank*.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 313 (G S Blewett 68, C A Walsh 5 for 96)	
1st Innings	
M A Taylor c Lara b Schoop	76
M T G Elliott retired hurt	15
R T Ponting c Browne b Schoop	17
M E Waugh c Browne b Ambrose	67
M G Bevan c Browne b Benjamin	52
G S Blewett not out	52
T A Healy not out	26
Extras to 4, 10 (w, 3, nb 9)	22
Total (4 wickets dec)	312
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-51, 2-67, 3-208, 4-274	

BOWLING: Ambrose 20-2-66-1; Walsh 16-2-62-5; Schoop 20-4-6-3; Benjamin 18-4-6-1; Adams 4-0-21-0; Hooper 27-7-75-0	
2nd Innings	
M A Taylor c Lara b Schoop	76
M T G Elliott retired hurt	15
R T Ponting c Browne b Schoop	17
M E Waugh c Browne b Ambrose	67
M G Bevan c Browne b Benjamin	52
G S Blewett not out	52
T A Healy not out	26
Extras to 4, 10 (w, 3, nb 9)	22
Total (no wicket)	27
BOWLING: Math 4-7-20; Waugh 4-0-15-0; Gillespie 2-0-3-0; Warne 2-1-1-0; Underwood 2-0-3-0; Hogg 2-1-1-0; D R Shepherd (England)	

England profit from disputed dismissal

ENGLAND A have already learnt how determination, resilience and patience can contribute to a prosperous tour, but they added a further ingredient to their armoury on the third day of their match with Australian Capital Territory in Canberra: they discovered the ability to win the

judgment in disputed dismissals (a Special Correspondent writes).

Before Mike Veletta was controversially given out, England were struggling to make the breakthrough against ACT.

His departure, to an arguable catch, followed quickly by the dismissal of Bruce Hara, left ACT on 140 for four at the close, still 52 runs away from preventing an innings defeat.

Veletta edged Adam Hollis to Craig White, the Yorkshire all-rounder, standing at slip, who appeared to scoop the ball up for Warren Hegg, the wicketkeeper, to take the catch. Veletta, who batted for nearly two hours for 65, disputed the catch by standing his ground and when the umpires refused to reverse their decision, he flung his bat on the ground as he walked off — penitence that prompted the match referee to order him to appear before a disciplinary hearing after play on the final day today.

His dismissal, quickly followed by Hollis' trapping Hara before, put England in a strong position to continue their victory march across Australia and the manager,

David Graveney, said: "Getting Veletta out just before the close is a crucial wicket because he's a quality player."

Earlier, England had resumed on 285 for five, with Glen Chapple, the Lancashire fast bowler, giving a further demonstration of his talent with the bat. Chapple hit an

unbeaten 59 after Hollis' was caught in the deep off the first ball of the day and Hegg fell four overs later to jeopardise England's hopes of building a large first-innings lead. But with Such, the tallender, adding 35, England were finally dismissed for 408.

Answers from page 49

HORS DE COMBAT

(c) French for out of the battle. Incapable of taking any further part in the fight, disabled. Hazlitt, *Table Talk*. Essay vi: "He [Coburn] levels his antagonists, he lays his friends low, and puts his own party hors de combat."

LE ROI PANADE

(b) Louis XVIII, reigned 1714-24. French for the King of Slops, was so nicknamed. Panade is broad soup. Fat Louis, who replaced Napoleon because there was nobody else available or willing to take the unenviable job of ruling the French, was also known as Louis l'Inévitable.

PIECE DE RESISTANCE

(b) The piece of resistance is the substantial piece, ie the main dish of a meal, the joint or meat dish. Figuratively, the most important feature, the main event, the best part of the show, the outstanding item.

SANGFROID ANGLAIS

(c) The supposed (by the French) characteristic of the phlegmatic English, unemotional, unimaginative, unromantic, dull but solid as pit bull terriers. Seen as the archetype of the Crapauds. *Sangfroid* is cold blood. Freedom from excitement or agitation. One does a thing with perfect sangfroid when one does it coolly and collectedly.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1, Re8; Nf6; 2, Nh6; Qxh6; 3, Re8; Kd8; 4, Qd8 checkmate.

New flesh on old bones

Random Edition, Radio 4, 12.25pm

By now, you should have become hopelessly addicted to Andrew Green's series in which 1996 flesh is put on the often forgotten bones of history. Today, Peter Snow pores over a computer-generated newspaper of 1651. It was the year, we are told, when Scots discovered that what they had long believed to be true — that God was a Scot — probably wasn't true after all. It was also the year that the abduction in Greenwich Park in London of Jane Packer, a gentlewoman of a plentiful fortune and estate, became an issue of state, and the year a certain Sir Henry Hyde (whom nobody had ever accused of being clever), says a history expert) literally lost his head in a sort of political road accident.

Song of the Whale, Radio 4, 2.00pm

Steve Hennessy, who wrote this grim play, is a social worker, so presumably he is no stranger to the kind of situation he dramatises. If that is correct, *Song of the Whale* must be regarded as a useful addition to radio's stock of social case histories. Essentially, it is about the urge to corrupt innocence that some people have. A schoolboy (Guy Bingley), mourning his baby brother's death, plans to run away to Siberia to be within talking distance of whales. During a seaside holiday, he falls in with two underbrosers (Russell Parry and Robert Whelan). The play's heroic conclusion rings less true than what has gone before.

Peter Daville

RADIO 1

7.00am Chris Evans 9.00am Simon Mayo 12.00am 12.45am Newcast and at 1.15 The Not 2.00 Nick Campbell 4.00am Mark Goodier, Includes at 5.30-5.45 Newcast 7.00am Evening Session, 8.00am Whaley and Steve Lamacz 9.00am Cing Film with Mark Kermode and Mary Anne Hobbs 10.00am Mark Radcliffe, live from Manchester 12.00am Celia Sargant includes The Not 4.00am Clive Warren

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy, Includes Pause for Thought 7.30am Wake Up to Wogan 8.30am Ken Bruce 11.30am Debbie Dade 1.30pm Ed Stewart 3.00pm Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Dade 3.00pm Ed Stewart 5.00pm John Dunn 6.00pm Ed Stewart 7.00am Harvest Over Seab 8.00pm Musical Chair 8.30pm The Women in His Life (7/8) 9.00pm Guilty The Great Leads Pub Piano 10.00pm John Montaner presents The Voice of Harpers Hall 10.30pm The Jamesons 12.00am Steve Madden 3.00am Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00am The Breakfast Programme, red 6.30am 7.00am racing preview 8.30am The Magazine 12.00am Midday with Mark, and at 12.35pm Moraycheck 2.05pm Race on Five 4.00pm Newcast 7.00am News Extra 7.30am Sports Bulletin 7.35pm The Tuesday Match, with Mark Pougatch, Newcastle v Metz in the UEFA Cup 10.05pm News Talk 11.00pm Night Line 12.00am After House 2.05pm Up All Night

TALK RADIO

5.00am Early Breakfast 7.00am Paul Ross 9.00am Scott Chisholm 12.00am Anna Rabin 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00pm Christine, with Peter Dinkley 7.00pm Bob Dea's Sportszone 10.00pm James Whale 1.00pm Ian Collins

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00am: Russ 'n' Jon's Breakfast Experience 10.00am: Graham, Dane, 1.00pm: Jenny Clark 4.00pm: Micky Harte 7.00pm: Paul Coope (FBI) / Robin Barker (AM) 10.00pm: Mark Forrest, 2.00am: Randle Lee Ross

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, Includes Mendelssohn (Piano, Trio No 2 in C minor, Op 69; Pasquill Orchestral Suite); Vivaldi (Symphony in a minor); Haydn (Symphony No 85 in D) 5.00am The Music Machine, New Machine explains his top hyperstrophic. And artist Yo-Yo Ma talks about the hypercello Machine, designed specially for him 7.30am Chamber Music from Manchester, Live recital debut in this country of French violoncelle Olivier Charlier, partnered by pianist Brigitte Engerer, Ravel (Violin Sonata); Greg (Violin Sonata No 3 in C minor, Op 45 & 15) 9.00am Otherworlds, Work poets Sophie Hannah, Miles Champion and James Nunn is read by Melissa Sinden and Russell Davies 8.35pm Concert, part 2, Beethoven (Sonata in A, Op 47) 8.30pm The BBC Proms, Producer Angela Tibby presents Jesus in the Movies and asks, can you tell the truth with 9.50am Ulster Orchestra, Conductor Warwick Stanger, Massenet (Suite La Cid) Della Jolo (The Triumph of St John) 10.45pm Night Waves, With a new production of A Midsummer Night's Dream by Jonathan Miller and a film by Adrian Noble. Richard Coles talks about the play and its impact 11.30pm The Record of the Week, American Symphonies (1) 12.30am Jazz Notes, Digby (Symphony No 1) reviews the new jazz film Kansas City 1.00am Through the Night

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00am News Briefing 6.10am Farming Today 6.25am Prayer for the Day 6.30am Today 6.55am Weather 9.00am News 9.05am Call Nick Ross 10.00am News, Wiston Goss (FBI) The Whale Trail (4/4) 10.00am Daily Service (LW) 10.15am On This Day (LW) 10.30am Woman's Hour, with Jenni Murray 11.30am Medicine Now, with Geoff Watts 12.00pm News; You and Yours 12.25pm Random Edition, See Choice (1) 1.00pm The World at One, with Nick Clarke 1.40pm The Archers (1) 55 Shipping 2.00pm News; Thirty Minute Theatre: Song of the Whale, See Choice (1) 2.30pm Personal Record, Jeremy Nicholls visits the homes of well-known personalities to delve into their records collection in search of musical and personal revelations. This week, broadcaster Sue MacGregor 3.00pm The Afternoon Shift, with Dawn Brabban, Evelyn Davies tells the story of Parnassus, Melange, an ancient shrine that has become a place of pilgrimage for cancer sufferers 4.00pm News 4.05am Kaleidoscope, Paul Vaughan reads a collection of John Fowles' verse and celebrates 25 years of the Cretaceous as a new exhibition opens 4.45pm Short Story, Solitaire, by Julia Strathairn, A desperate woman and her children set off on a daunting journey through the open country of the Australian outback. Reader Choice: 6.00pm 6.55am Shipping 6.55am Weather 8.00pm Six O'Clock News 8.35pm A Little of What you Fancy, 62 Starring David Jason and Pam Ferris as Pop and Ma Larkin in Eric (FBI) 9.00pm The Record of the Week, H.E. Bates (2/6) (1) 7.00pm News 7.05pm The Archers 7.25pm News with Jonathan Rugman 8.00pm Science Now, The latest from the world of science (1) 8.30pm The Record of the Week, A series about the treatment of problem children, Jenny Cuff follows young people in residential care (2/6) (1) 9.00pm In Touch, Peter White with news, views and information for visually impaired people 9.30pm Telescope (1) 9.55am Weather 10.00pm The World Tonight, with Isabel Hogg 10.45pm Book of the Week, Andy Paterson, by Doris Mercurio (7/8) (1) 11.00pm Madam T, The world's events in the media with Vincent Harris 11.30pm I Was That Teenager (FBI), In the last of the series, Hunter Davies explores the teenage life of stand-up comic Mark Lerner (1) 11.30pm Today in Parliament (FBI) 12.00pm News and 12.22am Weather 12.30pm The Law Society's Choice, A Patricia Highsmith's gothic love story, Abridged by John Chambers (7/12) 12.45am Shipping Forecast 1.00am World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1, FM 97.8-98.2, RADIO 2, FM 88.1-90.2, RADIO 3, FM 90.2-92.4, RADIO 4, FM 92.4-94.5, LW 158, MW 120, 124.5-5.55pm, CLASSIC FM, FM 100-102, VIRGIN RADIO, FM 102.5, MW 1197, 1215, TALK RADIO, MW 1083, 1089, Television, radio ratings compiled by Peter Evans, Jane Gregory and John McDermott, 2



Contemplation.

Besides being one of the most enduring of life's little pleasures, Glog's Gin is an ever-dependable complement to contemplation. Whilst the discerning fellow marshals his thoughts, he can ponder over its smooth yet crisp character and the fragrant aroma of eleven herbs and botanicals.

The Classic Gin.
GLOG'S



A manic Monday of women behaving badly

Monday nights are normally staid affairs. We look forward to the cool authority of *Horizon*, *World in Action*, *Panorama* or *Secret Lives*, and wrap our legs in blankets. But something went wrong last night: the telly glowed hot and over-excited, perhaps in early anticipation of Christmas. What with the continuation of *Moll Flanders* (ITV) as well as the *Wicked Women* film *Brazen Hussies* (BBC2) the telly was all noise and colour and flesh and sex, in dizzying amounts. Normally, the morning after a Monday night, one wakes the wiser for a few facts about science, society, politics and biography; and can feel sober and virtuous (if curiously empty). How remarkable, then, that waking after last night's offerings one cannot see the colour pink without breaking into a muck sweat and rushing to the bathroom.

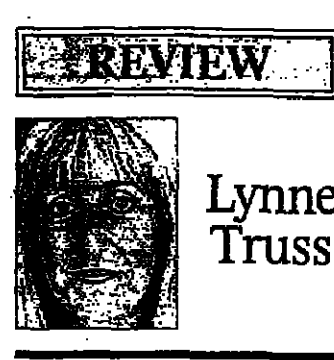
Brazen Hussies was a bold

production, but unfortunately its boldness had so little ostensible purpose that it becomes hard to offer congratulations. In terms of production, in fact, it was one of the most peculiar things I've ever seen — a high-camp, hysterical form of parody, with boudoirs of deep pink, ambient light of deep pink, condoms of deep pink, and even deep pink bollards running alongside the gasometer. Julian Clary did stammering cameos. Meanwhile the father said story concerned a middle-aged, love-starved woman whose attempt to jump-start her libido involved employing young men as male strippers in her husband's pub.

Julie Walters, as Maureen, was terrific, as usual — but never has an actor had to fight so hard against the wallpaper, and lost. Meanwhile, Robert Lindsay gave an enthusiastically flesh-crawling performance as the loathsome Billy: a preening Romeo with Bee

Gee shirts and nasty hair like Peter Stringfellow, who seduced Maureen and promptly betrayed her. His particular courtship ritual was to disappear under a dinner table and re-emerge with Maureen's thighs in his mouth, so no wonder she fell for him. Sexual attraction is funny, isn't it? The only trouble from the characterisation point of view was that, with Billy clearly contemptible from the start, Lindsay had nowhere much to take him (pelvic thrusts notwithstanding).

A bit more realism in the production, and Maureen and Billy could have come properly alive. But realism wasn't the point, as I somehow keep forgetting. Poising pouches were the point; waxed chests, and menapausal over-excitement. Women in garish make-up chased young lads, skulking down the street; at the grand opening of Ladies' Night, a pack of women fell on



Lynne Truss

Lindsay and tore his clothes off, like the Bacchae with hair spray. And in the midst of it all, Jimmy Tarbuck was brilliantly cast as a showbiz promoter, which shows what bizarre things can happen when imagination runs wild.

What would have made Maureen happy? Love, that's what. Or, in her own words, "some kind of tenderness". The same message comes coming across in the contin-

uing story of *Moll Flanders*, too. Beautifully played by Alex Kingston, Moll is feisty (and fond of rum-pumpkin), but the point of her story is that she is continually searching for a safe haven. She only looks for a new man when the last one lets her down; or when conscience drives her. Last night's second episode concerned her unfortunate marriage to her half-brother, in Virginia. The discovery of this consanguinity was double-edged, of course, because although Moll found her true mother (hoorah!), the old lady turned out to be Diana Rigg in a funny hood, doing an uncalled-for impersonation of Glenda Jackson.

Much as I am enjoying *Moll Flanders* — especially the very English, *Tom Jones* energy of it — I must say the scene between mother and daughter last night was astonishingly bad. Rigg's Mrs Golightly is certainly no conventional woman, but her reception of

Moll's news still required something more in the acting department than pursed lips and round eyes. It's not every day you discover your son's wife is your own daughter. Diana Rigg, however, looked like somebody who had just been goosed, but couldn't look round.

Best thing of the whole evening, in my opinion, was Channel 4's *Pond Life*. This new, 15-minute animated series, written and directed by Candy Guard, concerns yet another reckless female looking in vain for a harbour, in this case Dolly Pond — a grotesque cartoon girl with big glasses, spotty shorts and a fat friend called Belle.

Dissatisfied single life is the big funny subject with women these days, and it makes you think, doesn't it? I mean, gosh, if I had only written a million columns about it myself, I would bring them

out in paperback for Christmas! Dolly Pond, meanwhile, is gloriously funny — snappy, self-pitying, self-deluding, contradictory, exaggerated, in short, just like every single woman I know. Deciding that she's hopelessly in love with a ginger-haired photographer called Sid (who has no idea), she watches Sid with Belle but can't get Sid off her mind. "Bernice!" says someone on the telly. "Oh God," sighs Dolly, wretchedly. "Sid's mum's called Bernice."

The drawing is funny, but the scripts are brilliant (and I have watched the next three, to check). Emma Chambers voices Belle, and Sarah Ann Kennedy has the perfect moaning tone for Dolly. The only problem is that it's scheduled at 5.45 — when nobody will see it.

● Lynne Truss's collection of columns Making the Cat Laugh is published by Penguin on Thursday at £6.99

REVIEW



Lindsay and tore his clothes off, like the Bacchae with hair spray. And in the midst of it all, Jimmy Tarbuck was brilliantly cast as a showbiz promoter, which shows what bizarre things can happen when imagination runs wild.

What would have made Maureen happy? Love, that's what. Or, in her own words, "some kind of tenderness". The same message comes coming across in the contin-

uing story of *Moll Flanders*, too. Beautifully played by Alex Kingston, Moll is feisty (and fond of rum-pumpkin), but the point of her story is that she is continually searching for a safe haven. She only looks for a new man when the last one lets her down; or when conscience drives her. Last night's second episode concerned her unfortunate marriage to her half-brother, in Virginia. The discovery of this consanguinity was double-edged, of course, because although Moll found her true mother (hoorah!), the old lady turned out to be Diana Rigg in a funny hood, doing an uncalled-for impersonation of Glenda Jackson.

Much as I am enjoying *Moll Flanders* — especially the very English, *Tom Jones* energy of it — I must say the scene between mother and daughter last night was astonishingly bad. Rigg's Mrs Golightly is certainly no conventional woman, but her reception of

Moll's news still required something more in the acting department than pursed lips and round eyes. It's not every day you discover your son's wife is your own daughter. Diana Rigg, however, looked like somebody who had just been goosed, but couldn't look round.

Best thing of the whole evening, in my opinion, was Channel 4's *Pond Life*. This new, 15-minute animated series, written and directed by Candy Guard, concerns yet another reckless female looking in vain for a harbour, in this case Dolly Pond — a grotesque cartoon girl with big glasses, spotty shorts and a fat friend called Belle.

Dissatisfied single life is the big funny subject with women these days, and it makes you think, doesn't it? I mean, gosh, if I had only written a million columns about it myself, I would bring them

out in paperback for Christmas! Dolly Pond, meanwhile, is gloriously funny — snappy, self-pitying, self-deluding, contradictory, exaggerated, in short, just like every single woman I know. Deciding that she's hopelessly in love with a ginger-haired photographer called Sid (who has no idea), she watches Sid with Belle but can't get Sid off her mind. "Bernice!" says someone on the telly. "Oh God," sighs Dolly, wretchedly. "Sid's mum's called Bernice."

The drawing is funny, but the scripts are brilliant (and I have watched the next three, to check). Emma Chambers voices Belle, and Sarah Ann Kennedy has the perfect moaning tone for Dolly. The only problem is that it's scheduled at 5.45 — when nobody will see it.

● Lynne Truss's collection of columns Making the Cat Laugh is published by Penguin on Thursday at £6.99

- 6.00am BUSINESS BREAKFAST (13715)**
6.00am BBC BREAKFAST NEWS (14845)
9.00am BBC BREAKFAST NEWS EXTRA (1291339)
9.25am STYLE CHALLENGE (4174357)
9.45am KILROY Studio debate (4004045)
10.30am CANT COOK, WON'T COOK (13380)
11.00am NEWS (1) (3883300)
11.05am THE REALLY USEFUL SHOW
Consumer advice (584203)
11.45am SMILLIE'S PEOPLE (8387834)
12.00am NEWS (1) (7820767)
12.05pm THE FLYING DOCTORS (1)
(3830951)
12.50am A DIFFERENT COUNTRY PRACTICE
(30010048)
1.00am NEWS (1) and weather (47932)
1.30am REGIONAL NEWS (5820654)
1.40am NEIGHBOURS (1) (28044390)
2.00am CALL MY BLUFF (7135)
2.30am THE TERRACE (38)
3.00am INCOGNITO (8970)
3.30am BRUM (7058785) 3.40am Remould the
Reindeer (1534048) 3.50am
Chucklevision (5265574) 4.10am Oscar's
Orchestra (1) (132512) 4.35am I'll Never
Work (1) (7828425) 5.00am Newsround (1)
(5580686)
5.10am THE BIZ A new series begins about the
students of the Markov School of Dance
and Drama (8888993)
5.35am NEIGHBOURS (1) (1) (230333)
6.00am NEWS (1) and weather (38)
6.30am REGIONAL NEWS (90)
7.00am HOLIDAY Jill Dando visits Sorrento in
the Neapolitan Riviera; John Pimm drives
from LA to Palm Springs; Carol Smilie
explores Portugal's Costa de Prata on
horseback; and John Holdsworth takes
the Eurostar to Lille (1) (1951)
7.30am EASTENDERS The Vic is under
surveillance, while Peggy and Tiffany
embark on a secret trip. Carol receives a
very frosty reception upon her return
home (1) (74)
8.00am SPORTSNIGHT: Newcastle v Metz
Live action from the Uefa Cup third round
second-leg tie from St James' Park.
Presented by Desmond Lynam.
Commentary from John Motson and
Chris Wadmore. NB: Subsequent
programmes are subject to delay and
alteration (41593244)
9.55am NEWS (1) REGIONAL NEWS and
weather (488512)
10.25am FILM: Night Hawks (1991) with Sylvester
Stallone. Thriller about two New York
cops who are assigned to a special unit
on the trail of international terrorists.
Directed by Bruce Maltin (1) (340785)
WALESE: 10.25am Irish Politics 10.55am FILM:
Night Hawks 12.30am FILM: After
Midnight 2.00am News headlines; weather
12.00am FILM: After Midnight (1989) with Julian
McWhirter and Pamela Segall. A group of
college students visit their tutor's house
one night as part of their "Psychology of
Fear" course. Not all survive until the
morning. Directed by Ken and Jim Wheat
(1) (4617)
1.30am WEATHER (8555471)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme
listing are Video PlusCodes, numbers which
allow you to program your video recorder
instantly with a VideoPlus+ handset. Tap in
the Video PlusCode for the programme you
wish to record. VideoPlus+ (1) and
Video PlusCodes are trademarks of
Gemstar Development Ltd.

- 6.00am OPEN UNIVERSITY: The Necessity**
for History (7068222) 6.25am Writing and
Unwriting Testimony (7055557) 6.50am An
Historian at Work (8388191) 7.00am
Hear News (2318406) 7.30am Parle of
Penelope Phipps (6233300) 7.50am Blue
Peter (1) (5240406) 8.15am Johnson and
Friends (5885593) 8.25am Spot (597845)
8.35am The Record (8376512) 9.00am The
World's Worst (120665) 9.15am Life Size
in the Kitchen (572425) 10.00am Playboys
(2744357) 10.25am The Fugitive (8571932)
11.15am The Phil Silvers Show (222200)
11.40am Flash Gordon (5032772) 12.00am
See Heart (35512) 12.30am Working
Lunch (58855) 1.30am Spot (5257784)
1.45am Johnson and Friends (808245)
1.55am FILM: The North Star (b/w, 1943)
starring Anne Baxter and Farley Granger.
Second World War drama about a group
of Soviet partisans defying the Nazis.
Directed by Lewis Mileston (7284845)
3.00am News (1) (7433300) 3.05am Westminster
with Nick Ross (1) (2781628) 3.55am News
(5240789) 4.00am Today's the Day (13)
4.30am Ready, Steady, Cook (15) 5.00am
The Oprah Winfrey Show (1) (4917593) 5.40am
Lifestyles in a Day (442837) 5.50am A Week
to Remember (b/w) (49135)
6.00am FRESH PRINCE OF BEL AIR (1)
(232357) 6.25am Heartbreak High (1)
(107048) 7.10am The O Zone (888583)
7.30am THE VERDICT David Rose investigates
why beatniks are the only professionals
you can't sue (1) (16)
8.00am UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE Manchester
v Birkbeck, London (1) (8241)
8.30am FOOD AND DRINK Michael Barry offers
advice on taking the stress out of
preparing the Christmas dinner. Jill
Goodwin and Oz Clarke taste test a
selection of Spanish wines (1) (4048)
When Rover Met BMW
BBC2, 9.30pm
The final part of Jill Nicholson's anatomy of
a motoring marriage highlights the obsessive
secret surrounding the development of new
models. Although the cameras were allowed
to cover the testing of a new Land Rover in
Yorkshire, the company made it clear that
nothing was given away. The footage is so
incisive that the viewer can see only when
it is too late. Airline passengers might be
more reassured if the design faults were not
there in the first place. Today's anthology of
aviation disasters, assembled in no
discernible order, includes the DC10 crash
near Paris in 1974, the worst to date, and
the still unexplained demise of TWA 800 off
the United States in July. The programme
also goes back to the 1940s and early 1950s to
recall the accident-prone story of the Comet.
The world's first jet passenger aircraft began
as a British triumph but became a British
embarrassment.
Network First: The Widow, the Terrorist
and the SAS
ITV, 10.40pm
Souhaila Andrawes was one of four
Palestinians who hijacked a German plane
to Somalia in 1977. The only terrorist to
survive when the plane was stormed by
German special forces and the British SAS,
she is living in Norway and fighting
extradition to Germany to stand trial for
murder. She has been a leading ally in
Barry Davies, one of the SAS men involved
in the operation to free the hostages. He has
come to sympathise with the Palestinian
cause and reckons that Andrawes, who was
wounded in the shootout and has already
been in prison, has suffered enough.
Monika Schumann, widow of the pilot shot
dead by the terrorists, not surprisingly takes
a different view. In the tense finale of a
cleverly mounted documentary she meets
Andrawes face-to-face in Oslo.
Waymark

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme
listing are Video PlusCodes, numbers which
allow you to program your video recorder
instantly with a VideoPlus+ handset. Tap in
the Video PlusCode for the programme you
wish to record. VideoPlus+ (1) and
Video PlusCodes are trademarks of
Gemstar Development Ltd.

- 6.00am GIMTV (7223425)**
9.25am SUPERMARKET SWEEP (4150948)
9.55am REGIONAL NEWS (2721406)
10.00am THE TIME...THE PLACE (25222)
10.30am THIS MORNING (8006045)
12.20pm REGIONAL NEWS (1) (5825131)
12.30am NEWS and weather (1) (8049891)
12.55am SHORTLAND STREET (9024661) 1.25am
High Road (1) (3231614) 2.00am Home and
Away (1) (38563244) 2.25am Cross Wits
(80513929) 2.50am Vanessa (3027970)
3.20am NEWS (1) (7447680)
3.25am REGIONAL NEWS (7446951)
3.30am POTAMUS PARK (9753113) 3.40am
Wizards (1520574) 3.50am Zoi the Dog
(1658749) 4.05am Garfield and Friends
(2340222) 4.15am Hey Arnold! (1128551)
4.40am THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO PARTIES
(1) (110435)
5.10am WHAT'S MY LINE? (7803593)
5.40am NEWS (1) and weather (748561)
6.00am HOME AND AWAY (1) (229883)
6.25am HTV NEWS (1) (48796)
7.00am EMMERDALE (1) (3319)
7.30am THE MIDDLE AGES: Forever Young
Ray Gosling meets middle-aged people
who want to stay young forever (1) (70)
8.00am THE BILL DCI Meadows decides to
investigate the involved murder of a
prostitute (1) (2067)
8.30am THE COOK REPORT The investigative
reporter uncovers more shady deals and
unscrupulous connexions (1) (1574)
9.00am SOLDIER, SOLDIER Hobbs is captured
by the Carverian army and the boys turn
back to look for him (1) (3883)
10.00am NEWS (1) and weather (30067)
10.30am REGIONAL NEWS (529698)
10.40am NETWORK FIRST: The
Widow, the Terrorist and
the SAS Twenty years after terrorist's
hijacked a plane at Mogadishu,
Somalia the terrorist, Souhaila Andrawes
who survived, the commander, Barry
Davies who tried to kill her and the pilot's
widow, Monika Schumann meet to reflect
on the event (1) (597680)
11.40am WEST VIEW UPDATE (82628)
12.10am HITCHECK PRESENTS (265162)
12.40am FOOTBALL LEAGUE EXTRA (363029)
1.30am FILM: THE BOY IN BLUE (1986) starring
Nicolas Cage, Cynthia Dale and
Christopher Plummer. Biopic about Ned
Henley, the Canadian rowing champion
of the late 1900s whose records
remained unbeaten for many decades.
Directed by Charles Jarrold (1) (21278)
3.15am LATE & LOUD (3285902)
4.10am THE CHART SHOW (1) (3870742)
5.00am FRANCIS BISSILL'S WESTCOUNTRY
CHRISTMAS (95523)
5.30am NEWS (56471)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme
listing are Video PlusCodes, numbers which
allow you to program your video recorder
instantly with a VideoPlus+ handset. Tap in
the Video PlusCode for the programme you
wish to record. VideoPlus+ (1) and
Video PlusCodes are trademarks of
Gemstar Development Ltd.

- 6.30am WISH KID (32512) 7.00am The Big**
Breakfast (60883) 9.00am Here's One I
Made Earlier (17116)
9.30am FILM: The Teeny Bunnies (1938, b/w).
George and Ira Gershwin with musical starring
Adolphe Menjou. Directed by George
Marshall (79280390)
11.35am HIGHLAND JOURNEY (3557262) 12.00am
House To House (20680) 12.30am
Trumpion (1) (9115168) 12.45am Alfie
Adams (1) (9115664) 1.00am Soccer Street
(9251628) 1.55am The Vertical Leap
(10418651) 2.05am How to be American
(70634932)
2.15am FILM: Where the Sidewalk Ends (1950,
b/w) starring Dana Andrews as a New
York policeman who murders a suspect
under interrogation and tries to frame a
gangster for the crime. Directed by Otto
Preminger (1) (256880)
4.00am FIFTEEN-TO-ONE (1) (69)
4.30am COUNTDOWN (1) (83)
4.50am RICKY LAKE (1) (277241)
5.45am POND LIFE (1) (484208)
6.00am BABYLON 5 (1) (1) (574135)
6.50am FRESH POP (791845)
7.00am CHANNEL 4 NEWS (1) (505951)
7.55am THE SLOT (822574)
8.00am RIDE ON Muriel Gray meets a
new breed of transporter who
prefer to call themselves "rail en-
thusiasts" (67) (1) (3338)
8.30am BROOKSIDE Jimmy and Jackie face up
to their son's drug-related death. Ron
begins to realise just how big a mistake he
has made (1) (9116)
9.00am BLACK BOX: Crash
Detectives Focusing on the
investigation teams at two crash sites —
TWA 800 which exploded in mid-air
after this year and the Valujet crash (1)
(1425)
10.00am DROP THE DEAD DONKEY Topical
comedy set in a television newsroom.
Henry has a mid-life crisis. Sally makes
an exhibition of herself and Damien
discovers that he is not indestructible
after all (1) (8834)
10.35am WHOLE LINE IS ANYWAY? Satirical
low quiz (1) (326590)
11.05am NORTHERN EXPOSURE Off-beat
comedy (1) (117628)
12.00am LUMBERJACKS OK! Michael Palin
takes a look at Squamish Park (3/6)
(6402037)
12.35am THE VILLAGE (8245633)
1.05am THE WHITE ROOM with Mark Street
Preachers (1) (2732758)
2.10am POSITIVE VIBRATIONS The music of
Jamaica (1) (1) (439075)
3.40am FILM: Period of Adjustment (1982). An
adaptation of Tennessee Williams's first
light comedy, starring Jane Fonda and
Jim Hutton as newweds. Directed by
George Roy Hill (866044). Ends at 5.40

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme
listing are Video PlusCodes, numbers which
allow you to program your video recorder
instantly with a VideoPlus+ handset. Tap in
the Video PlusCode for the programme you
wish to record. VideoPlus+ (1) and
Video PlusCodes are trademarks of
Gemstar Development Ltd.

For more comprehensive
listings of satellite and cable
channels, see the Directory,
published on Saturday

- SKY 1**
1.00am Love Connection (4709135) 7.20
Press Your Luck (4729997) 9.40am Jeopardy!
(384978) 8.10am Quiz (5351116) 8.30am
Another World (4557168) 8.45am Quiz
Winners (7342414) 10.40am Real TV (564154)
11.10am Sally Jessy Raphael (8181154) 12.00am
Guaraldi (87884) 1.00am The Most Generous
Superman (56725) 12.00am L.A.P.D. (88100)
12.30am Real TV (88044) 1.00am H&M

- SKY 2**
7.00am Star Trek: Deep Space Nine
(1782154) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 3.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 3.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 3.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 3.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 3.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 4.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 4.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 4.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 4.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 4.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 5.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 5.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 5.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 5.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 5.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 6.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 6.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 6.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 6.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 6.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 7.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 7.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 7.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 7.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 7.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 3.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 3.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 3.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 3.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 3.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 4.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 4.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 4.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 4.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 4.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 5.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 5.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 5.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 5.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 5.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 6.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 6.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 6.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 6.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 6.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 7.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 7.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 7.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 7.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 7.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 8.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 9.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 10.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 11.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 12.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 1.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.10am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.20am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.30am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.40am Star Trek: Voyager
(45970) 2.50am Star Trek: Voyager
(459

